

Kidnappers say no more talks

BEIRUT (R) — The shadow "Islamic Jihad" group said on Tuesday the French government had closed all doors to any solution of the French hostage issue in Lebanon. "With the new French government, there were signs of a solution to the hostage issue, but a secret visit by a U.S. envoy to Paris with plans to coordinate on the hostage release closed the doors to any solution," said a statement by the group delivered to the American Broadcasting Company (ABC) offices in Beirut. The type-written statement was accompanied by a five-minute video-film of French hostage Jean-Paul Kauffmann, who said the hostages were filled with hope when Jacques Chirac was elected prime minister in March and declared the hostage question was one of his main concerns. Kauffmann, a 43-year-old journalist, added that the hostages and the kidnappers had lost hope. "We feel utterly forgotten, utterly abandoned and utterly desperate," Kauffmann, clean shaven but looking haggard and thin, was kidnapped in Beirut on May 22 last year along with Arabist researcher Michel Seurat, who Islamic Jihad said it killed last March. His body was never found.

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King receives Romanian message

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received a message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the message dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East and Jordanian-Romanian relations. The message was delivered to the King by Romanian Deputy Foreign Minister Oren Duma.

King sends good wishes to Qatar

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday sent a cable of good wishes to the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, on the occasion of the anniversary of Sheikh Khalifa's accession to power. In the cable, King Hussein wished the Emir health and further progress and prosperity for the Qatari people.

Jordanians, Saudis exempt from new Moroccan visa rule

RABAT (AP) — Morocco, which recently arrested four suspected "international terrorists," has decided to require visas of visitors from Arab countries with the exception of Saudi Arabia and Jordan, the national press reported Tuesday. It was not clear whether the measure would take effect immediately. Nor was it clear whether the measure was tied to the Aug. 22 and Aug. 27 arrests in Casablanca of four suspects, although the press reports noted the sequence of events.

Weizman in Rome

ROME (AP) — A special Israeli government envoy arrived here Tuesday for talks with Premier Bettino Craxi on recent diplomatic moves in the Middle East. Ezer Weizman, the Israeli minister without portfolio and a former defence minister, flew in from Bonn where he met with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Monday. Mr. Craxi's office said on Monday that Mr. Weizman was to brief the premier on Wednesday on Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' recent meeting with Moroccan King Hassan II and his planning summit with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak next week.

Syria toughens law against smugglers

DAMASCUS (R) — Currency smugglers in Syria will face up to 25 years imprisonment, under a presidential decree published on Tuesday. The decree said convicted smugglers should not be sentenced to less than 25 years in jail.

EC pact on sanctions expected this week

LUXEMBOURG (R) — European Community (EC) states, including Britain, were expected to agree this weekend to impose limited economic sanctions against South Africa, Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen said Tuesday.

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Iraq dismisses Iran's claim to have seized oil platform in Gulf

Iraqis repel new Iranian attack in north

Combined agency dispatches

BAHRAIN — Iraq on Tuesday dismissed as propaganda an Iranian claim that Iranian forces had occupied an Iraqi oil platform in northern Gulf and reported air raids on oil pumping stations in Iran's western oilfields of Ahvaz and Marun.

An Iraqi military spokesman also said Iraqi warplanes hit a "large naval target" near the Iranian coast Tuesday afternoon. The spokesman said the planes attacked the pumping stations at 3:30 p.m. to prevent Iran from carrying out repair works after earlier raids on Aug. 22 and 27. He said the naval target was hit at 2:46 p.m. off the Iranian coast. The spokesman earlier dismissed as an "open propaganda attempt" an Iranian attack on Tuesday on the Al Amiq oil platform, used as a radar and maritime surveillance post in the northern Gulf. Iran claimed it captured the platform, 24 kilometres southeast of the Iranian-occupied Iraqi port

of Fao, and all its defenders were killed, wounded or taken prisoner.

The Iraqi spokesman said: "Our air force and navy are busy repelling the enemy with all their weapons." He gave no details of the fighting. He said Iraqi forces had repelled a fresh Iranian assault in Iraq's Haj Omran area on the northern front, where Iran launched a ground offensive on Monday.

Iraq said Monday night the two-pronged offensive by three Iranian divisions in the rugged Kurdish mountains of northern Iraq had been checked. The rusting Al Amiq oil loading platform, through which Iraq pumped one million barrels a day

before the war erupted in September, 1980, was abandoned two months later after Iranian attacks.

The Iraqis have transformed it into a missile-defended radar base from which they direct punishing air strikes against tankers carrying Iranian oil exports vital to Tehran's war-battered economy. The Iraqi campaign has escalated in recent weeks.

An Iraqi military communiqué later said 3,000 Iranians had been killed and thousands others wounded in two days of fighting on the northern front.

Iraqi Information Minister Latif Nsayef Jassim on Tuesday warned Iran of the consequences of attacking Iraq. "If Iran tries to carry out another adventure against our people and land, we shall turn the aggressors' empty heads and stinking bodies into decaying limbs which would fill the valleys and the hills," Mr. Jassim said.

He was quoted by the Iraqi News Agency as saying that Iraq was "stronger, more capable and determined than ever before in defending its territory."

Qadhafi adds to anti-U.S. tone at Harare non-aligned summit

HARARE (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, trying to muster the Third World against the United States and its Western allies, on Tuesday joined the Non-Aligned Movement summit as Middle East problems took centre stage. A few hours after the late night arrival of Colonel Qadhafi, embroiled in a new confrontation with the United States, the summit was shaken on Tuesday by a dramatic call from Iran for the expulsion of Iraq.

The already faint hopes of the Third World body being able to arrange a settlement of the six-year-old war evidently were dashed when Iranian President Ali Khamenei rejected peace overtures and called for the

execution of Iraqi leaders.

"The movement is duty bound to expel Iraq from the Non-Aligned Movement," he said.

Col. Qadhafi was making his first known trip out of Libya since U.S. planes bombed Tripoli and Benghazi last April. His presence added dramatic affect and immediate confusion to a hitherto low-key conference. Official Libya Radio reported he said on arrival at Harare airport late Monday night that he wanted to abolish the 101-nation Non-Aligned Movement — here to celebrate its 25th anniversary — and organise the world against imperialism.

"As for the non-aligned conference, I will do my best to

surmount this movement and to abolish it completely," it quoted him as saying.

"I will also do my best to divide this world into two camps only — the liberation camp and the imperialist camp, as in actual fact there is nothing else in the world but these two camps."

But in a translation given by Libyan officials to airport reporters there was no reference to abolishing the movement. He was quoted as saying only: "I shall do my best to surpass the movement and divide the world into two camps."

Col. Qadhafi himself spent most of the morning at a summit plenary session, listening

W. German officials find no evidence against Libya

BONN (AP) — West German officials said on Tuesday they had no evidence that Libya was preparing major guerrilla attacks against U.S. installations, either here or in other parts of Europe.

Consultations with other West European countries have produced no evidence against the Libyans, a Foreign Ministry official said. He spoke on condition that he not be named.

"We have very close cooperation with other Europeans on terrorism, and no evidence (that the Libyans are plotting attacks) has emerged from these contacts," the official told AP.

West German newspapers said Tuesday that the U.S. envoy Vernon Walters would find little support for tougher sanctions or other measures against Libya when he visits Bonn on Wednesday.

But Bonn government officials refused to comment on the sanctions issue. "In general, we don't think much of sanctions, but I cannot go beyond that," government spokesman Juergen Friebeisen said.

Mr. Walters, chief U.S. delegate to the United Nations, is expected in Bonn on Wednesday as part of a tour of eight West European capitals in an apparent bid to win support for tougher sanctions against Colonel Muammar Qadhafi's government.

In West Berlin, a Justice Ministry spokesman said there was no evidence that three Lebanese men who were arrested there last month had been involved in a Libyan-sponsored mission to bomb U.S. installations.

Former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky said on Tuesday that the Americans had never proven their allegations that Libya was involved in attacks at Rome and Vienna airports last December.

"There's been a lot of propaganda made here, and when one makes propaganda, one runs the risk of spreading lies," Dr. Kreisky said in an interview published by the opposition Social Democratic Party's parliamentary press service in Bonn.

"The Americans said the attacks in Vienna and Rome came from Libya, but we knew from our information that that was not the case," he was quoted as saying.

"The Americans have never delivered proof, although they promised to," Dr. Kreisky said.

In Brussels, meanwhile, U.S. envoy Walters met with Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans and a senior NATO official in his European tour to consult on tougher sanctions against Libya.

"We had an exchange of views but I can give no details of our talks," Mr. Walters said after his one-hour meeting at the Foreign Ministry.

International conference is only way to peace, King tells Murphy

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency despatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday reiterated to U.S. envoy Richard Murphy Jordan's firm belief and stand that a just and durable solution to the Middle East conflict could only be achieved through an international conference attended by all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the five members of the United Nations Security Council.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the reiteration of the Jordanian stand came during a meeting the King held with Mr. Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, who arrived here earlier in the day from Israel.

Petra said the King reaffirmed the firm principles of the Jordanian policy vis-a-vis the Middle East conflict and reiterated his call for an international conference.

Following his meeting with the King, which included a working lunch, Mr. Murphy left for Israel. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Paul Bocker attended the meeting.

Earlier, immediately after Mr. Murphy's arrival here, Prime Minister Rifai held a one-hour meeting with the U.S. official. No details were available on the discussions the two had.

In Washington on Tuesday, an unidentified official was quoted as saying Secretary of State George Shultz was contemplating a visit to the Middle East if Mr. Murphy found that such a visit would further prospects for peace in the region.

"He's always said he's



interested if there is something he can do," the official, quoted by AP, said. "It (a Shultz visit to the Mideast) is up in the air, and no decision has been taken."

Mr. Murphy's latest mission to the Middle East follows stepped up Soviet efforts towards convening an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict and seeking common grounds with the U.S. over the issue. Senior Soviet officials are touring various Arab states briefing Arab leaders on the new Soviet efforts. Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov is currently in Algeria after visiting Syria and Jordan. Another Soviet deputy foreign minister, Vladimir Petrovsky, is now visiting Tunisia after holding talks in Egypt and Iraq.

During his visit to Amman, where he was received by the King, Prime Minister Rifai and other officials, Mr. Vorontsov briefed the Jordanian leaders on the Soviet moves to find effective mechanisms to convene an international conference as called for by the Arabs. He also said, according to informed sources, Moscow was willing to seek

79 confirmed dead in Soviet accident

MOSCOW (AP) — Seventy-nine people are confirmed dead and 319 missing from a Soviet passenger liner that collided with a freighter and sank so fast there was no time to deploy lifeboats, a senior maritime official said Tuesday. Deputy Merchant Marine Minister Leonid P. Nedyak told a news conference that rescue boats plucked 836 survivors from the Black Sea, most of them clinging to rafts that floated free when the liner Admiral Nakhimov went down. He said 29 of the survivors were hospitalized, but did not give their conditions. Nedyak was pessimistic that many of the missing could still be alive. He said the liner was rammed sideways in its starboard side at 11:15 p.m. Sunday by the Soviet freighter Pyotr Vasyev. The collision happened about nine miles from the port of Novorossiysk while the liner was en route to the popular resort town of Sochi. He said officials estimate the passenger liner sank within 15 minutes, and now lies at a depth of 47 metres. "It sank quickly due to a very unfortunate blow to it by the freighter," Nedyak said. "The blow came into the partition between the engine room and the boiler room and, practically speaking, it ripped the ship open."

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Lebanese ministers announce general truce

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's Christian and Muslim ministers on Tuesday agreed on a general truce and setting up a national charter aimed at ending the 11-year-old civil war.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who called for the fresh peace talks on Aug. 19, announced the truce after a three-hour meeting of ten rival ministers at closed-down race tracks on Beirut's "green line" battlefield.

"It was decided to announce a general open truce," Mr. Karami told more than a hundred clamouring reporters in a small room of the two-storey battle-scarred building.

More than 500 heavily-armed troops and security men cordoned the area. Sharpshooters took position on roof tops of surrounding buildings.

"We also decided to set up a national charter based on safeguarding Lebanon's unity, stressing its Arab identity, reforming its political system, setting up a national army and liberating the south," Mr. Karami added.

The rival ministers, meeting for the first time in nine months with Mr. Karami presiding, arrived at the race tracks set amid pine trees along two dirt roads, one from mostly Christian east Beirut and the other from the mainly Muslim west.

"It took a race track to bring them together," said a policeman.

(Continued on page 3)

Prince Hassan calls for increased Afro-Arab information exchange

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday called on Arab and African states to promote Afro-Arab cooperation and to exchange scientific and cultural information to enable the two sides to assume an effective role in the international scene.

The Crown Prince, in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the best way to create a unified Afro-Arab stand towards international policymaking was intensified exchange of information through data and information centres. These centres, said the Crown Prince, should carry out research on issues related to Afro-Arab affairs.

"There are some prominent information centres in the Arab World and Africa, but these lack coordination in research," the Crown Prince said.

He attributed the state of cool relations between African and Arab states to the absence of special African studies at Arab universities.

However, Prince Hassan cited several institutions that contributed to bridging the cultural gap between the Arab World and the African continent. He specifically mentioned the Institute of African Studies at Cairo University, the Institute of Afro-Asian Studies at Khartoum University and a similar one at Iraq's Mustansiriyah University and Algeria University's African Research Centre.

The Crown Prince called for the establishment of special centres for documentation and information with a view to bolster cooperation between African and Arab states. He emphasised the need to formulate certain educational criteria aimed at giving special attention and due concern to preparing trained and

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(Continued on page 4)

Moneychanger set to obtain banking licence

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian moneychangers Halim Salfiti and Sons have acquired 51 per cent of the capital of the Arab Finance Corporation (AFC), Jordan, by buying 1,010 million shares from Al Saudi Banque's holding company based in Saudi Arabia.

The transaction, which took place at the Amman Financial Market on Tuesday, now authorises Halim Salfiti and Sons to transform itself into an investment bank in accordance with recent government decisions.

The company bought each share from the Saudi firm at the rate of JD 1,450, about 35 per cent more than the present market rate of the share.

The Saudi Banque's holding company representative in Amman, Shafiq Al Akhras, earlier met with Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali and Central Bank Governor Hussein Al Qasem and explained to them various aspects of his company's decision.

He said the company had hoped to own 100 per cent of the Arab Finance Company but having failed to achieve that it decided to sell its shares to a local firm.

Despite the sale of its shares in the AFC, the Saudi firm will continue to cooperate with Jordanian financial institutions "because it has full confidence in the Jordanian economy and its future," Dr. Akhras said.

Halim Salfiti and Sons had been seeking a banking licence. It could now go ahead with applying for the status of an investment bank.

Last month, the government ruled that moneychangers could become banks and obtain licence if they become investment banks with at least JD 6 million in capital.

Peres wants talks with Egypt to broaden peace

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday he wanted to focus on developing a broad Middle East peace initiative in his forthcoming summit with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Peres also said he hoped his talks with Mr. Mubarak would strengthen the treaty signed by the two nations in 1979. Israeli officials say the meeting, the first between the two countries' leaders, is expected to take place next week.

"I want to check if both our countries can advance the peace process in the area together," Mr. Peres told high school students in a town 15 kilometres east of Tel Aviv.

Mr. Peres' approach to the summit differed from that of his right-wing Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who said he wanted the summit to focus primarily on normalising ties with Egypt.

Mr. Shamir, scheduled to take over Mr. Peres' job in October under a pact between his Likud

bloc and Mr. Peres' Labour Party, said "the first item on the agenda must be the status of the relations between us ... I believe this is the major issue, the issue of the highest order: how we strengthen, stabilise and consolidate peace between Israel and Egypt."

Speaking on Israel Radio, Mr. Shamir said as a second priority the two leaders should also discuss Israel's relations with Jordan and the situation in the area, but the bilateral issues must come first.

Shamir aides said the foreign minister objected to the emphasis Mr. Peres was placing on talking to Mr. Mubarak about broad peace efforts, but would not risk any clash with Mr. Peres which could jeopardise their scheduled job switch, Israel army radio reported. Mr. Mubarak has also said any summit should focus on broader issues, not simply bilateral matters.

Earlier on Tuesday, Mr. Peres reported to Mr. Shamir on his planned summit agenda as well as on his late-night meeting Monday with U.S. envoy Richard Murphy.

Mzali says he was barred from travelling abroad

TUNIS (R) — Sacked Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali, a former vice-president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), said Tuesday he was barred from going abroad recently to accept an invitation to stay with IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch.

Mr. Mzali, abruptly dismissed by President Habib Bourguiba on July 8, said in a telephone interview with Reuters that when he was about to fly to Switzerland to join Mr. Samaranch he was told at the airport that he needed the head of state's permission to go.

He said he was now seeking permission to travel abroad to devote himself anew to the Olympic movement.

Speaking from his home in Tunis, Mr. Mzali said that apart from his son, Mokhtar, arrested for alleged financial mismanagement, two of his relatives had been questioned by police since his dismissal.

Mr. Mzali, 60, who had been prime minister since 1980, said

that he himself was free to go as he pleased within the country and was in possession of his passport.

Mr. Mzali said he wished to accept invitations abroad and was waiting for the go-ahead to do so.

"I want to become just an ordinary citizen. Because I enjoy very much continuing to be active in the Olympic movement, as I was before," he said.

Mr. Mzali, who was vice-president of the IOC from 1976-1980, said he might apply for a second term when the post fell vacant, or for a place on the organisation's executive committee.

Concerning the abortive trip to Switzerland, Mr. Mzali said that Mr. Samaranch telephoned him a few days after his dismissal and invited him to stay with him for two weeks at his home.

It was arranged that he should leave on Aug. 19 with his wife but she stayed behind after their son, Mokhtar, a senior executive in the state milk-marketing firm Sml, was arrested.

Shin Bet chiefs underline Shamir's role in killings

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The outgoing head of the Shin Bet security service and his former deputy testified that Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir was involved in the 1984 murder of two Palestinian hijackers, the daily Hadashot reported Tuesday.

Avraham Shalom and his deputy Reuven Hazak said during two separate interrogations by police that Shamir knew all the details of the killings, the newspaper said.

Shamir's alleged involvement in the affair has threatened to trigger a political crisis between Shamir's right-wing Likud Bloc and the left-leaning Labour Party of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Shamir is to replace Peres in October as part of a power-sharing accord set up two years ago.

Health Minister Mordechai Gur of the Labour Party said this week he would resign rather than serve in a Shamir-led government because of reports indicating Shamir had played a role in the affair.

Shamir has said that before the bus hijacking he discussed with Shalom a general policy of killing gunmen in hostage-taking situations. But he has denied any wrongdoing in the affair.

The case involves the beating

deaths of two Palestinians in April 1984 after they were captured during the hijacking of a civilian bus to the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip. Two other hijackers were killed during the rescue operation.

The slayings were later investigated by two military commissions of inquiry, but Shin Bet agents covered up their involvement in the affair.

Shalom and Hazak told police interrogators they received orders from Shamir on what to do immediately after the bus hijacking as well as during the military commission probes, Hadashot reported.

In a letter to President Chaim Herzog in June, Shalom appealed for a pardon and implied Shamir had authorised the killings and a subsequent cover-up.

Shalom said in his letter he acted "with authority and permission." Although he did not mention Shamir by name, Shamir as prime minister at the time was Shalom's direct and sole superior. Shalom repeated his statement

during the police interrogation. Hadashot reported.

Israeli newspapers reported this week that Shamir was to be questioned by Police Commissioner David Kraus in connection with the Shin Bet affair, but the newspapers did not say when.

Shalom and 10 other Shin Bet agents allegedly involved in the killings and cover-up received presidential pardons and are not liable to prosecution no matter what the police inquiry reveals.

Shalom tendered his resignation in June but is still serving in his office because there has been no decision on a replacement, Hadashot reported.

Israeli Health Minister Mordechai Gur said Tuesday he would resign rather than serve in a government led by Yitzhak Shamir, in protest against the foreign minister's alleged involvement in the Shin Bet scandal.

"There is no doubt in my mind I won't be able to serve in Shamir's government," the Labour Party minister told reporters.

He said cabinet officers should take ministerial responsibility — a term for resignation for significant failures by departments under their control.

3 Britons held for armed robbery in Sharjah

SHARJAH, UAE (AP) — Three Britons are under arrest in the Gulf Emirate of Sharjah on charges of committing and assisting in an armed robbery, police officials reported Tuesday.

The Britons were identified as David Neil, 34, Morgan Owen, 42 and David Hanson. They were accused of robbing the cashier of a local company in this Gulf emirate and robbing him of 31,000 dirhams (\$8,423) by "armed means."

Two of the suspects came to Sharjah from Bangkok especially for the robbery, according to the police sources who spoke on condition they not be identified.

Neil had previously worked as a driver at the Al Gellaf Spare-Parts Company in Sharjah. He returned with Owen on Aug. 13 and was accused of spraying the gas on the cashier, while Owen waited in a getaway car.

The car was rented from Hanson who was considered an accomplice, according to the police.

Police staked out a house in the neighbouring emirate of Ajman where the suspects were staying. Spotting the police, the suspects fled in a car and were chased back into Sharjah till they were seized on Monday, the police said.

Part of the stolen money and the chemical spray, as well as unspecified quantities of drugs and two syringes were found with the suspects who will be brought to trial before the Sharjah court, the police added.

Kuwait declares 'open door' government

By Rory Channing
Reuters

KUWAIT — Kuwait may have dissolved its parliament, but in keeping with an ancient Islamic code that enshrines the value of consultation, it has thrown open the doors of government to the public.

Soon after the dissolution of the National Assembly in July, the Gulf state's Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, directed ministers to set aside one day a week to receive the public.

The open-door policy has been portrayed as a pragmatic application of the Islamic code "Shura", or consultation, espoused in the Koran.

In the past weeks, men and women have flocked to meet ministers, lodge complaints or petitions, air their views and seek guidance on policies governing their livelihood.

There is no bar on sex, status or nationality, whereas only a small group of Kuwaiti males — mainly those who could trace their origins here back to the 1920s — had the franchise under the parliamentary system.

As Kuwaitis make up only 40 per cent of a population which includes over 125 nationalities, and over half are below voting age, those eligible to vote numbered little more than 100,000.

Kuwait's Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, dissolved the 50-member National Assembly on July 3, citing national security and economic crises facing the country's 1.7 million people.

The Emir, who also suspended parts of the constitution and gave the government new media censorship powers, said assemblymen were turning parliament into "an arena for

settling old scores."

Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah said the Emir had acted to prevent Kuwait from becoming another Lebanon.

Since then, the government has used the open days to show that although it has imposed press restrictions, it welcomes criticism.

"Write and criticise me personally, or the ministry. We are not sensitive about constructive criticism," Information Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmad Al Sabah told local reporters who visited him.

Topics discussed at the hearings have ranged widely, from television programmes to problems with telephone links and power supplies, housing, schooling, business licences and working permits for foreign maids.

Potential benefits of the policy, according to a newspaper survey of the public, included the opportunity for those who lacked influence to cut through red tape in what is one of the world's most heavily manned bureaucracies.

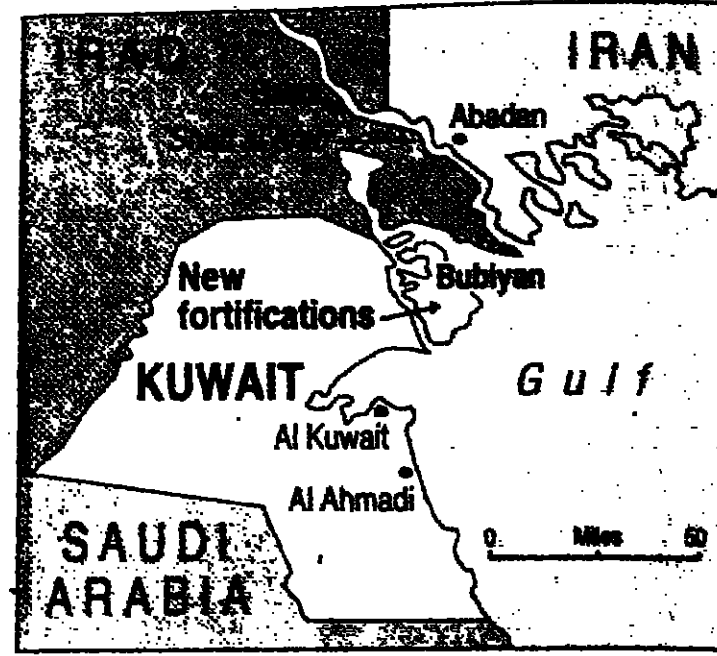
The civil service employs over a quarter of the country's workforce.

Open day attendances vary greatly. The ministers of education and housing have each received over 150 people in a single day. But at one of his sessions, the planning minister had only one visitor.

Sometimes the experience can prove rather sobering, with ministers taking the opportunity to break bad news.

After one of his hearings, Health Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadi spoke of plans to impose fees on health services.

Planning Minister Mohammad Soleiman Sayed Ali called for the introduction of taxes to help fund an array of generous public services, developed on the



strength of the 1970s oil boom, which have turned Kuwait into a model welfare state.

Kuwaitis enjoy free health and education, and if married are eligible for state-built villas. Staple foods, electricity, water, public transport, petrol, household fuels and telephone services are heavily subsidised.

Only foreign firms pay tax. "It is high time citizens shared responsibility with the government," Mr. Sayed Ali remarked after one of his open days.

A recent visit by the defence minister to Kuwait's north eastern border, only kilometres from the Iran-Iraq warfront, illustrates a desire to ensure that as many people as possible have access to ministers.

"Doors are open to all complaints, proposals and questions, from all ranks," the

minister, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, was quoted as saying after meeting with servicemen.

In his July 3 decree dissolving parliament, the Emir said: "As to the principles, we all believe in Shura which has been passed to us in the holy book... this popular practice and the desire to promote it to the modern level has been the driving force behind our adoption of the parliamentary system."

But "The form of the system is not an objective in itself," he added.

Kuwait has had an elected parliament for all but five of the 25 years since it became independent from Britain. In 1980 the Emir was credited with reviving the assembly which had been suspended by his predecessor because of political infighting that all but paralysed the government.

Mujahedin report Tehran forced 30,000 teachers to serve at war front

COLOGNE (Agencies) — The main Iranian opposition group, the People's Mujahedin, said Tuesday that the Tehran government had pressed over 30,000 schoolteachers into service at the Gulf war front in the past few weeks.

In a statement issued by its office in Cologne, the group said the forced recruitment had caused chaos in the country's school system and that classes in some areas had been reduced to only five hours a week.

The Mujahedin said the Iranian authorities had also stepped up

recruitment of other social groups to make up numbers at the front and for the first time was ordering Tehran merchants to carry out a 45-day stretch of war service.

The Mujahedin, which has its headquarters in Iraq, says it draws its information from supporters inside Iran and issues regular bulletins in key European cities.

"Recently, the regime announced to Tehran merchants that they must spend 45 days at the fronts. In contrast to previous occasions when the regime accepted money from the merchants in lieu of their dispatch,

this time it stressed only their compulsory service in the war," the Mujahedin statement said.

"Other reports indicate that every month the regime dispatches 650 physicians and medical personnel to the war fronts from across the country. The continuous forced dispatches of this number of medical personnel, while creating disruption in the country's medical and health services, has resulted in the reappearance of once extinct bacteria and diseases, such as malaria, in some regions of Iran," the statement added.

Melilla Muslim leader gets senior post

MELILLA (R) — The leader of the Muslim community who led anti-government protests in Spain's North African enclave of Melilla said Tuesday he had been given a senior job in the Interior Ministry.

Aomar Duda told reporters he was put in charge of relations with ethnic minorities and would begin his new job next Tuesday. He would rank as a deputy director

general in the Internal Policies Department.

A ministry official could not immediately confirm the appointment.

Duda has led protests during the past few months against an aliens' law that made most of Melilla's 20,000 people of Moroccan origin liable to expulsion. He won a pledge from the government to carry out a

census to establish those who were entitled to Spanish nationality.

Duda said his job would also cover problems caused by big summer holiday migrations through Spain of Moroccan workers from northern Europe.

He said the ministry had accepted that he would continue to deal with problems of the Muslim community in Melilla.

Three gunmen rob west Beirut bank

BEIRUT (AP) — Three gunmen armed with silencer-equipped pistols robbed 300,000 Lebanese pounds (\$7,500) from a bank jointly owned by Lebanese and French interests in west Beirut Tuesday, police said.

It was the second bank robbery in as many days in Beirut's mainly Muslim sector, underscoring a resurgence of lawlessness despite

a Syrian-sponsored security plan to end the chaotic reign of feuding militias.

Police said the assailants broke into Banque Libano-Francaise on the Grand Floor of the Gefnor plush business compound shortly after it opened for work at 9 a.m. (0600 GMT).

Each gunman fired a shot into the ceiling, ordered employees

and customers to kneel at the bank's hall, packed the safe's money into bags and escaped in a black German BMW, police said.

Assailants on Monday attacked the Beirut-Riyadh Bank in west Beirut's Corniche Mazraa thoroughfare and escaped with 700,000 Lebanese pounds (\$17,500), according to police.

Qadhafi shows renewed vigour despite U.S. pressure

By Philip Shehadi
Reuters

TRIPOLI — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, again under U.S. pressure for his alleged "support of terrorism," has bounced back into public view, showing renewed vigour and confidence as he enters a 17th year in power.

In the past week, he has kept a gruelling schedule of public appearances, including two in Tripoli for the first time since U.S. planes bombed his home and other targets here last April.

Libya faces continued economic strains and diplomatic isolation, but Col. Qadhafi, 44, remains unchallenged leader of this North African country of 3.5 million people, diplomats say.

The man his followers call "leader of the world revolution" came to power on Sept. 1, 1969, when he and fellow officers overthrew Libya's monarchy.

Last week despite Western reports he is paranoid and pursued by internal enemies, Col. Qadhafi rode in an open jeep through the capital's main square, saluting 4,000 graduating cadets to the roll of foreign television games.

The current outward calm

contrasts sharply with the tense weeks that followed the April 15 raids on Tripoli and Benghazi.

Until July, Col. Qadhafi made only discrete visits to the eastern cities of Darnah and Benghazi, looking tired. Officials said he was consumed by reflection on the country's post-raid course.

In August, we began a two-week tour of the southern Fezzan region, and received the leaders of Uganda, Sudan and Syria. This week, smiling and appearing relaxed, he chose coastal cities from Sirte to Al-Khums for his customary parades through throngs of chanting supporters.

For security reasons, the appearances were brief and unannounced. Crowds, banners and slogans were quickly organised by local revolutionary committees.

Col. Qadhafi's recent tours, however, had all the hallmarks of previous ones — colourful, well-staged folkloric settings with devoted young followers chanting slogans of praise, demands for Arab unity and denunciations of the United States.

But diplomats say there have been marked changes in Col. Qadhafi's style. He is speaking

less than in the first months of this year, when he rarely missed an opportunity to address the Western press, attack American policy and trade insults with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Diplomats say Col. Qadhafi and other Libyan leaders are anxious not to provoke the United States into a fresh attack with imprudent rhetoric.

Washington says it has "new evidence of Libyan support for terrorism" and will strike again if it is substantiated. It is also trying to convince its European allies to impose economic sanctions on Libya.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Col. Qadhafi has so far let his deputy, Maj. Abdul Salam Jalloud, give Libya's only official response: A conciliatory offer to help the U.S. hunt down terrorists.

In the Libyan political system, Col. Qadhafi is only a guide, the theoretician who has laid down the principles of the revolution and now oversees its progress. He stripped himself of official functions in 1977, saying he was handing over power to the people.

At times, he appears more symbol than substance. At the

annual congress of Libyan Revolutionary Committees on Friday night, he let Maj. Jalloud lead the proceedings as he sat, somewhat distracted, occasionally smiling and raising a clenched fist.

Col. Qadhafi's image is everywhere, however, in public squares, hotel lobbies, shops and offices.

Libyan radio re-broadcasts his lectures on colonialism, politics and economics. Quotations from his "green book" of political and economic theory are read daily.

Among the names given him are "leader of steadfastness and victory," "brother leader," and "international thinker."

"He is our brother, our leader and our friend. But it is the people who rule," explained 25-year-old Mufta Al Kham, a Revolutionary Committee member.

Diplomats say Maj. Jalloud, 42, a Qadhafi associate for over 20 years, is closer to being the country's chief executive, but Col. Qadhafi is consulted on all key decisions.

His main power base is the Revolutionary Committees, which diplomats estimate have 50,000 members nationwide. The vast majority are in their teens and

20s and they often show fanatical devotion to their leader.

Hussein Bashir, 17, leading slogans at a Qadhafi rally at Zlitan, 150 kilometres east of Tripoli told reporters: "If the colonel says destroy America, we are ready to fight and to die on behalf of our principles."

Their avowed aim is to incite revolution not only within the country through People's Congresses, the main channel for political participation, but outside as well.

Diplomats say the Revolutionary Committees have been gaining influence at the expense of competing interests in the army and government bureaucracy.

This may not pass without consequences for Col. Qadhafi, they say, if army resentment at the civilian committees grows.

Among the population at large, concern at the deteriorating economic situation also poses a challenge.

Tripoli residents say lines for bread, meat, flour and sugar are commonplace at government shops, and private sector prices are beyond the reach of most Libyans.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

17:00 Koran
17:30 Onn and Chop
17:30 Cartoons
18:00 Documentary
18:30 Space Voyage
18:30 Variety
19:00 Local programme
19:45 Cairo Message
20:00 News in Arabic
20:45 Local series
21:45 Variety
22:00 Wrestling
23:00 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 "Des chiffres et des lettres"
18:30 French series: "Catherine"
19:00 News in French
19:15 Anjouin "lail en Jordanie"
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Your Living Body
20:00 News in English
20:30 Three's Company
21:10 Believe it or not (documentary)
22:00 Pop Session
22:30 Moon Stone

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9500 KHz, SW
Tel: 774111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
10:00 Morning Show Cont.
11:00 Pop Session
11:30 Songs from Movies
12:00 News Summary
12:45 Pop Session Cont.
13:00 News Summary
13:45 Pop Session
14:00 News Summary
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 Your Health
15:00 Concert Hour
15:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Over a Cup of Tea
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Cont.
21:55 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsweek 07:30 On the Box 07:40

Box Choice 07:45 Financial News
07:45 Reflections 08:00 World News
08:00 24 Hours News Summary 08:30
08:45 Report on Religion 08:45 The World
Today 09:00 Newsweek 09:30 Meridian
10:00 World News 10:00 24 Hours
10:00 Newsweek 10:30 Development 10:36
11:00 World News 11:00 Reflections
11:15 Classical Record Review 11:30
Brain of Britain 11:30 12:00 World News
12:00 British Press Review 12:15 The
World Today 12:15 Financial News
Look Ahead 12:45 A Land of Song
13:00 News Summary: Omnibus 13:30
My Music 14:00 World News 14:00
News About Britain 14:15 A Letter
from Wales 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio
Newsweek 15:15 Nature Notebook 15:25
The Fanning World 15:45 Sports
Round-up 16:00 World News 16:00 24
Hours: News Summary 16:30
Development 16:45 Tenor and
Baritone 17:00 News Summary:
Outlook 17:45 Report on Religion 18:00
Radio Newsweek 18:15 Islamic
Fundamentals 18:30 Patterson 19:00
World News 19:00 Commentary 19:15
Commentary 19:45 The World Today
19:45 World News 20:00 A Letter from
Wales 20:15 Farnborough Air Show
20:35 News Ideas 20:45 Sports Round-up
21:00 Newsweek 21:30 Promenade
Concert 22:00 Concert 22:30
News Summary 22:30 Stock Market
Report 22:45 Good Books 23:00 World
News 23:00 24 Hours: 23:00 State of the
Nation 24:00 News Summary

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740,
11925 and 15210 Hz

07:00 News: Informal Presentation of
Popular Music with Feature Reports.
News Summary
Interviews, Answers to Listener's
Questions, Science Reports, Sports
News at 30 minutes past the hour. 18:00
News 18:10 Newsline 18:30 Music USA
19:00 News 19:10 Focus 19:30 Special
English News & Features 20:00 News
20:10 Newsline 20:30 Magazine Show
21:00 News 21:10 Focus 21:30 Special
English News & Features 22:00 News
22:10 Newsline America 22:30 Music
USA 23:00 News & Editorial 23:15
Music USA Jazz 24:00 News 09:10
VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre : Tel: 6610267

American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 641520
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 620409
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 667816
Y.W.C.A. 641799
Y.W.M.C.A. 642511
Amman Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and
costumes over 100 years old. Also
mosaic from Madaba and Jerash (4th
to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre,
Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5
p.m., Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an
excellent collection of the antiquities of
Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Circled Hill).
Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m.
to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a
collection of paintings, ceramics, and
sculptures by contemporary Islamic
artists from most of the Muslim
countries and a collection of paintings
by 19th Century orientalist artists.
Museum, Jabel Lweibdeh. Opening
hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00
p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel.
630128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum):
Collection of military memorabilia
dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916.
Sports Club Amman. Opening hours 9
a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel.
665424.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to
150 year old items such as costumes,
weapons, musical instruments, etc.
Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman
Catholic) Jabel Lweibdeh, Tel. 623541.
St. George Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek
Orthodox) Abadi, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the
Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh,
Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh,
Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox)
Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church
(Inter-denominational): meets at
Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani,
Tel. 677334.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabel
Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Sair),
Tel. 811295.
Rainbow Congregation (International,
Inter-denominational) meets in the
Church of the Redeemer, Jabel
Amman, Tel. 606974.

PRAYER TIMES

04:47 Fajr
06:12 (Sunrise) Duha
12:06 Dhuhur
16:11 'Asr
18:29 Maghrib
20:22 'Isha

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every
first and third Wednesday at the

HOLIDAY INN, 1:30 p.m.

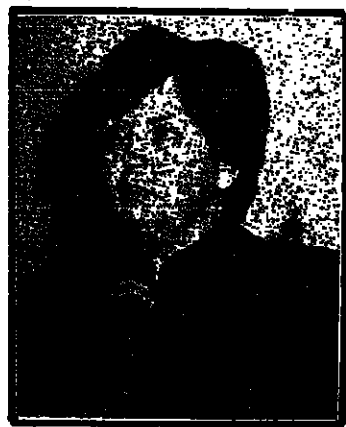
Lions Philadelphian Club. Meetings
every second and fourth Wednesday at
the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings
every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn,
1:30 p.m.
Betany Club. Meetings every Tuesday
at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman,
Eight Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman
Catholic) Jabel Lweibdeh, Tel. 623541.
St. George Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Hussein, Tel. 66175

Mrs. Sharaf calls for popular participation, democratic institutions in the Arab World

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter



Laila Sharaf

AMMAN — A prominent Jordanian thinker and politician on Monday urged social and political scientists to take into consideration the distinguished features of Arab society and heritage and to draw up a formula which would realise popular representation and enhance democratic institutions in the Arab World.

Mrs. Laila Sharaf, a former information minister, said that social and political scientists are called upon to define the required forms and structures of popular representation and to define the relationship between the three government branches — the executive, the legislative and judicial — to guarantee the independence of these branches and to realise a wider scope of popular participation in decision making.

"We want our social and political scientists to achieve these goals without falling into the trap of blind imitation and without confining ourselves inside a destructive shell," she said. Mrs. Sharaf's statements were part of a lecture entitled "Democracy, why and how?" which she gave at a dinner hosted by the Lions Club Petra, at the Marriott Hotel on Monday evening.

In her lecture, Mrs. Sharaf emphasised the importance of democracy as an international and human concept in the progress and development of mankind. She also reviewed the factors which have led to the failed application of democracy in most Third World countries and particularly in the Arab World, concluding with specific suggestions on how to realise democracy in the Arab World.

According to Mrs. Sharaf, the definition of democracy is not a strictly political concept but has philosophical and human dimensions. "It is a concept which starts at home, through the relationship between the parents and the child, and ends with the relationship between the citizen and the government at the voting booth," she said.

Mrs. Sharaf said that democracies have so far proved to be the most successful systems in the world and have been able to absorb crises and contradictions in their societies throughout the years.

She noted, with regret, that most Third World countries are deprived of democracy and that the absence of democracy has been a major factor hindering the economic, social and political development of these countries. Mrs. Sharaf, a staunch advocate of democratic freedoms, outlined five reasons which she said make democracy in its political as well as philosophical implications, a necessity for the development of modern societies.

First, she said, democratic institutions and structures make citizens out of individuals. In this sense, democratic structures replace the family structure which provided the umbrella for an individual as a child and which defined his (her) responsibilities and relations with other members of the family and society. Thus, political institutions which can guarantee an individual's participation in society replace the family by defining the individual's rights and responsibilities towards his country. In the absence of such effective structures, individuals are lost and their behaviour is defined through narrow, selfish interests.

Second, democratic participation in building society creates individual responsibility and strengthens collective responsibility which then reflects the collective will of a democratic society.

Third, and at this point Mrs. Sharaf quoted her late husband, former Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Sharaf, as having said: "Democracy teaches the people freedom and freedom teaches the people the feeling of security."

She said that the late prime minister's statement has two important meanings: That responsible freedom cannot be achieved or taught in the absence of democratic institutions which can protect these freedoms and Mrs. Sharaf went on to refute claims by some conservative Arab thinkers and politicians that developing nations are still not prepared for democracy.

"Whoever said that our peoples do not deserve freedom because they do not know how to use it, is in fact asking how people can learn how to use freedom if they do not practise it through democratic institutions which prevent the exploitation and misuse of this freedom."

The second meaning implied in Mr. Sharaf's statement was that the security of a society emanates from the psychological security of each citizen which could only be achieved when the citizen's basic freedoms were guaranteed and protected by democratic institutions.

The fourth reason cited by Mrs. Sharaf was the contention that there could be no real cultural, educational, intellectual or any other kind of progress or innovation without democracy.

Fifth, Mrs. Sharaf argued that a citizen could not be expected to express any strong feeling of belonging or commitment to his country if his own rights were not guaranteed and protected.

Mrs. Sharaf went on to analyse why most Third World countries have failed to apply democracy knowing that it was fundamental for building their societies.

In her view, this failure was largely due to two reasons: one concerning a wrong or superficial endorsement of democracy in Third World countries and the second concerning inherent social concepts and attitudes which hinder democracy.

The superficial endorsement of democracy in the Third World, she said, was also caused by two factors: First, since most of these countries were under Western domination, the colonial powers "deliberately" imposed the superstructures of their democratic "systems" on these countries. But the structures were imposed without any "real substance and consequently were superficial since they did not reflect an actual application of democracy. Second, Third World thinkers, who were essentially the product of Western political thought, fell into the trap of trying to impose these concepts instead of integrating them into their societies, taking into consideration the specific historical and cultural features which distinguished individual societies.

Mrs. Sharaf cited "blind and irrational obedience," which stemmed from fear rather than discipline or respect, as a main social attitude impeding the application of democracy in the Third World and particularly in Arab countries. She said that obedience is taught both at home, where a father's orders and wishes should be obeyed without discussion, and at school where the educational system entrenches autocratic values and concepts, suppresses creativity and discourages individual initiative.

Mrs. Sharaf, who is a member of the board of American University of Beirut (AUB), called for a fundamental change in the educational system in the Arab World to encourage debate, innovation, analysis, creativity and entrench democratic values and practices.

Mrs. Sharaf outlined three other prerequisites which, in her view, would provide the basis for the application of democracy in developing countries.

First, any economic development should be accompanied by social development in order to avoid gaps between the haves and have-nots. A balance in economic and social development would guarantee equal opportunities for all which is one of the bases of a democratic system, she said.

Ministry studying health situation, facilities in occupied territories

By Abdullah Nsour
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh is at present making a detailed study on means to promote health care and medical services in occupied Arab Jerusalem in the light of a report prepared by a special Ministry of Health committee on health conditions in the occupied territories.

A ministry spokesman said that once the study is completed, allocations will be made in the coming year's budget for establishing a radiotherapy unit in Jerusalem which will also be supplied with apparatus and qualified staff. The measure is being taken in the course of a ministry plan to bolster the steadfastness of the Arab population and to provide them with a good standard of medical services, presently lacking in areas under Israeli rule, the spokesman added.

He said that the Higher Health Council and the Ministry of Health are making preparations to implement an ambitious five-year plan to improve and modernise medical services throughout the occupied West Bank.

During a meeting held at the

Health Ministry last Wednesday, Dr. Hamzeh said that a joint medical services committee for the West Bank has been formed to take charge of all health projects benefiting Arab citizens living under Israeli rule. The 12-member committee, he said, represents all health sectors and unions in the occupied West Bank and he added that the committee has adopted a working plan to be implemented in three stages.

Special committee meets today

The committee is due to convene today at the Health Ministry to discuss a report prepared by the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs on the general health conditions on the occupied Arab territories and means of promoting medical services.

The report envisages investing JD 24.4 million in health projects for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip over the coming five years and the allocations will cover the cost of expanding hospitals' activities, the purchase of equipment for medical centres, establishing integrated health centres in rural regions and training doctors, nurses and technicians.

On the subject of hospitals in the occupied territories, the report said there are presently 10 hospitals but the number of beds has dropped from 1,023 in 1981 to 973 beds at present.

Blood bank

The report said that the occupation authorities have closed the blood bank in Arab Jerusalem on the pretext that it does not have modern technical equipment and it added that the five-year plan envisages setting up a new, modern blood bank to serve the Arab inhabitants.

In the West Bank, there are 141 clinics and in the Gaza Strip 21 but these are insufficient for the whole population, the report said. It proposed increasing the number of medical centres and clinics in rural regions and improving and modernising existing ones.

The report said that the five-year plan also provides for setting up mother and child care centres and assisting local charitable and voluntary societies which run medical centres of their own. The report said that there are only 12 laboratories in the West Bank and two in the Gaza Strip and the plan envisages setting up laboratories at each integrated health centre.

Egyptian workers asked to abide by labour laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Egyptian embassy in Amman has called on all Egyptian nationals employed and living in Jordan to cooperate with the Ministry of Labour in its drive to control and organise the labour market in Jordan.

The ministry's labour counsellor Mohammad Abdul Razzak said in a statement that all Egyptians should report to labour offices and have their work permits and other papers put in order and said that the Jordanian authorities will repatriate all Egyptians who beg, work as street vendors and those without work permits.

Nearly 128,000 Egyptian workers are now employed in Jordan of whom only 70,000 are registered with employment offices and the remainder are working here illegally, Mr. Abdul Razzak said.

He went on to say that the Jordanian labour market is now in need of workers in construction, agriculture and service sectors but noted that the market is not open for doctors, engineers or secretarial jobs. Also, in view of the economic circumstances through which the Arab Nation is currently passing, Jordanian workers are returning home from Arab countries in the Gulf and the Jordanian government is trying to find jobs for them in different sectors, Mr. Abdul Razzak continued.

For this reason, he said, the Labour Ministry is now conducting an inspection campaign to ensure that all Egyptians have legal work permits.

Israel undermines farming in Toubas, mayor says

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli occupation authorities have demolished 2,000 homes belonging to Arab farmers in Toubas district and have destroyed 140 Arab agricultural projects in the area since 1967, Mr. Hashem Saleh, the mayor of Toubas, said in a statement on Tuesday.

The statement, carried by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that the Israelis had also confiscated 80,000 dunums of Arab-owned land to set up Jewish colonies, seized artesian wells and prevented Arab owners from using water resources for agricultural purposes.

The mayor said that the Israeli authorities have set up special task forces which prevent Arab inhabitants from raising livestock on the land which they own and that these forces impose heavy fines on violators of their laws.

In his statement, Mr. Saleh stressed the importance of the five-year development plan for the occupied Arab territories, saying that it would bolster the Arab citizens drive to promote

agricultural and health sectors in the occupied Arab land.

Labour unions condemn closure of electricity company

Meanwhile, the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions (FJLU) on Tuesday issued a statement condemning Israel's seizure of the Arab Jerusalem District Electricity Company. The statement said that the Israeli measure was a flagrant violation of United Nations principles and that it was in defiance of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) charter and basic human rights, and a show of total disregard for any international laws and conventions.

The seizure and the threat of dismissing 600 workers at the Arab company constitutes a major disaster to the Arab territory and its inhabitants, the statement said. The statement also referred to the closure of the federation's branch in Nabhus which it described as a violation of ILO regulations and laws.

JPC to spend JD 32.5m on port installations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Ports Corporation (JPC) plans to spend JD 32.5 million on projects at Aqaba port between 1986 and 1990 in order to improve facilities and import and export operations at the Red Sea port, according to a JPC spokesman. He said that the projects aim at promoting land and sea transport services which

will in turn help the export of Jordanian products and transit operations.

Included in the plan is a scheme to build a new passenger terminal at the port to provide services to passengers travelling on the land sea route between Aqaba and Nweibeh in Egypt. Also, the JPC plans to construct a special wharf

Rifai opens IASIA meeting on administrative development

Prime Minister stresses importance of management, administrative sciences in comprehensive development

By Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai stressed on Tuesday that administrative advancement was inseparable from social, cultural, demographic and technological development.

The AOAS, has been concentrating on aspects of administrative development in the context of Arab international dialogue on administrative sciences, he said. "This dialogue will add stamina and positive contributions to the Arab World's experience in public administration and its development," said Dr. Sayegh.

He explained that his organisation based its work on three inter-related bases; firstly, to achieve rapprochement between the systems of public administration in the Arab World; secondly to improve Arab public administration, intellect and thought and thirdly to upgrade Arab administration.

Dr. Kaissar said the Amman meeting will benefit participants since "the Arab World is uniting here to concentrate its efforts on public administration which is part of everybody's life and at the same time is part of public authority and power." He went on to say that foreign participants in the conference will also gain from the discussions through becoming more familiar with the Arab World, its great history and traditions.

Dr. Richardson thanked His Majesty King Hussein and the government of Jordan for hosting the conference and expressed his hope that the outcome of the three-day discussions would benefit both the Arab and foreign participants.

On Tuesday afternoon, the conference resumed its sessions in the form of separate groupings to discuss the following subjects: administration of small and island states, new technology and management, instructional methodology, standards and requisites of performance in the public service, public enterprise management, education and training, strengthening administrative capabilities of governments and public policy in education and training.

Both Dr. Sayegh and Dr. Kaissar will hold a press conference on Wednesday to discuss the 20th international congress on administrative sciences which opens here Saturday.

In the meantime, the four-day annual meetings of the IASIA, IPA, IAS and AOAS will continue their preparatory meetings for Saturday's main conference.

The closed meetings on Tuesday were concerned with drawing up plans and recommendations to be issued at the conclusion of the four-day conference. Saturday's conference will be opened under

the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

Delegates express their views

Interviewed by the Jordan Times, two delegates gave their opinions on ways to improve administration. Dr. Richardson said that public administration systems all over the world must modify the manner in which public servants are trained as a result of the revolution in communications. He explained that in the past, public servants were mainly general administrators graduating in the fields of arts and sciences and the classics. Dr. Richardson believes that the new generation should be trained in economics, management and information sciences to become competent in the analysis and interpretation of information from a sophisticated data bank for the development of administrative policies.

Furthermore, public servants must be prepared to serve not only in their own environment, but in international organisations as a result of the world's interdependency, he said. Meeting these criteria would entail the acquisition of a second language and experience in relating to peoples of other cultures and societies. Dr. Richardson continued. He went on to say that a wider knowledge of world affairs would greatly contribute to the future administrators' understanding of other countries' problems.

Dr. Kaissar gave the Jordan Times one example of the success of interaction. He explained how a special session on Arab administration, held last year in Tunis, attracted the interest of the entire international community. He added that studies of a high scientific level should be encouraged by all Arab member states. "I am convinced after two decades of experience that interstate relations can only be improved by developing the administration of foreign affairs," said Dr. Kaissar.

Administrative development, with all its relevant concepts and bases, is as relevant and important as socio-economic development projects and in the absence of administrative progress it is difficult to achieve comprehensive development, Mr. Rifai told a meeting of Arab and international administrators.

In his key-note address to the annual session of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Public Administration (IASIA), Mr. Rifai said the need for "modern" concepts of administrative sciences was increasing

proportionally with the international recession affecting world economy.

"What we need is a sound economic administration capable of absorbing the present economic crisis and one which will continue to explore the development momentum," he told participants who gathered at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Sciences and Technology.

Working papers

The four day conference will discuss working papers related to the development of administration, the management of public projects and means of improving the performance of public services. The conference has been organised by the Brussels-based International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) and the Amman-based Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS), in cooperation with the IASIA and the Jordan Institute of Public Administration (IPA).

"To achieve administrative development, we need the cooperation of all local sectors to be followed by dual and collective cooperation on both the regional and international levels," said the prime minister in his speech. "Administration is not to be monopolised by the government and its relative institutions but rather is to organise the work of the people," he added.

Discussing the Royal Commission for Administrative Development (RCAD), Mr. Rifai told the conference that the commission will soon submit a detailed study on the human, organisational and financial aspects of administrative development.

The RCAD was set up two years ago to study ways of improving the performance of public and private organisations.

Also speaking at Tuesday's opening session were IPA Director General Abdullah Olayyan, AOAS Director General Nasser Al Sayegh, IASIA President Sam Richardson and IAS President Joseph Kaissar.

In his speech, Dr. Olayyan referred to the RCAD's forthcoming report saying it will recommend a three-pronged approach to advance public administration. The approach, according to Dr. Olayyan, will reorganise public administration taking into consideration a balance between "our traditional trends and the modern concepts" through introducing a new civil service system and through developing public administration as included in the national five-year development plan for 1986-1990.

Dr. Sayegh called for cooperation in public administration sciences and development between the Arab World and the West.

Lebanese cabinet announces truce

(Continued from page 1) watching them enter the conference room. More than 100 army troops took up positions and barred reporters from approaching.

Mr. Karami said another session was scheduled at the same site for Friday to discuss the "guidelines of the new covenant and ways to enable the government take back control of all public utilities and seaports from various militias."

Telecommunications Minister Joseph Hashem, a Christian, said he and Education Minister Salim Hoss were assigned by the cabinet to draft the new covenant.

"The peace talks were the first since a Syrian-mediated peace

plan collapsed last January. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has voiced his support for the talks.

Shiite Muslim Amal militia leader and Justice Minister Nabih Berri, who arrived at the talks flanked by more than 50 heavily-armed bodyguards, has voiced doubts about the success of Tuesday's talks.

He said he was ready only to discuss the Syrian-mediated peace plan which granted Muslims more say in the political system favouring Christians.

President Amin Gemayel, who returned from a private visit to France on Monday, did not attend the talks and it was not known if he would be present at the following meetings.

Qadhafi adds to anti-U.S. tone

(Continued from page 1) impassively to speeches by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Mr. Khamenei.

The eighth non-aligned summit was arranged for Harare in hopes of focussing world attention on the crisis surrounding the apartheid racial policies of South Africa, 750 kilometres south of the gold and glass conference centre.

Col. Qadhafi's arrival in Harare brought to 50 the number of heads of state or government attending the summit and to four the number of major world leaders of the United States. President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, fighting a U.S.-sponsored rebellion, is also here with the leaders of Cuba and Iran.

Col. Qadhafi, wearing a long white robe, arrived at the conference centre for the plenary session that began with a report by the outgoing non-aligned chairman, Mr. Gandhi, on the

movement's activities since the last summit in New Delhi in 1983.

When Col. Qadhafi entered, Mr. Khamenei came all the way around the conference hall to kiss and embrace the Libyan leader and then have a chat for about five minutes. Cuba's Fidel Castro, wearing his usual olive-drab dress military uniform, then went to greet and shake hands with Col. Qadhafi.

Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, conference host and new Non-Aligned Movement chairman, also greeted Col. Qadhafi, who arrived late because of revolution day celebrations in his own country on Monday.

The Libyan leader's presence at the summit was expected to give the gathering an even more strident anti-American tone. In Monday's opening session, the United States was roundly criticised for its policies in southern Africa and Central America.

Arab Medical Board to hold specialists' exams in December

By Abdullah Nsour
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arab Council for Medical Specialisations and the Arab Medical Board have decided to hold final examinations for specialists in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Qatar on Dec. 8 and Dec. 9. Successful candidates are awarded diplomas by the Arab Medical Board, the highest medical certificate issued in Arab countries.

The board's decision, taken at a

meeting in Damascus earlier this week, said that the average pass mark will be 70 per cent but in the event of all candidates obtaining marks of less than 50 per cent then all the results would be raised by an equal margin, not exceeding 50 per cent.

After the meeting in the Syrian capital, the board members inaugurated new premises which will be the permanent headquarters for the medical board. The building was a present from the Syrian government.

University of Jordan turns 25

AMMAN (Petra) — Tuesday Sept. 2 marked the 24th anniversary of the establishment of the University of Jordan which has graduated approximately 24,900 students from various faculties. The University of Jordan was established in 1962 by a Royal Decree which said that the Kingdom was in need of an institute of higher learning to serve present and future generations.

In the first year of its establishment, the University of Jordan accepted 167 male and female students at its only faculty at that time — the Faculty of Arts. Today, the university has 13 different faculties in which 11,600 students are studying. At least 639 staff members serve on a permanent basis with the University of Jordan which also offers post graduate training and awards M.A. and Ph.D. degrees.

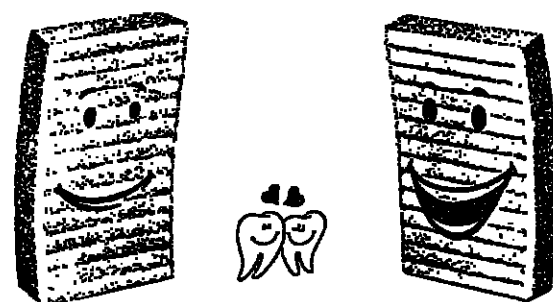
CONDOLENCES ACCEPTED

The Finnish Honorary Consulate in Amman has opened its doors to those wishing to offer condolences on the death of

URHO KEKKONEN

the former president of Finland. The consulate has its offices in Prince Mohammad Street, behind the Intercontinental Hotel in Al Battikh building and is open to the public from 10 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. today, Wednesday Sept. 3, 1986.

TRY ME



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... I PREVENT TOOTH DECAY !!!

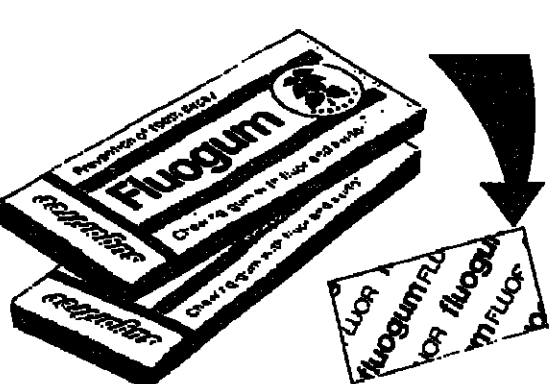
TRY ME... YOUR TEETH WILL LOVE YOU

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The paradox of Harare

NO matter what circumstances, varying as they might be, prompted most Arab countries not to be represented at the head-of-state level at the non-aligned summit in Harare, it is a certainty that the Arab cause would not as strong be in Africa because of the absence of Arab leaders at the Third World gathering. The summit, which comes at a crucial stage, when Israel is becoming more and more successful in its aggressive campaign to make inroads into most African states — Cameroon is the latest example — is or should be of paramount importance to the Arab World.

It would appear that by and large it was a belief that the Harare gathering would primarily boost the hands of the southern African states in their confrontation against the racist regime in Pretoria that acted as the catalyst in prompting the high-level Arab absence at the summit. Maybe so. But by being not so strongly represented, we may have overlooked a vital point and that is there is little international righteousness unless accompanied by a give-and-take business. The Africans would strengthen their support for Arab causes only in return for Arab backing for African causes. It is wishful thinking to expect the African states to be spurred by their own feelings of international justice and legitimacy e. humanitarian considerations to consolidate the Arab strength in the face of the Jewish state's designs in the Middle East. The low-level Arab presence in Harare may therefore clearly signal to the Africans that they could expect only a token support from the Arabs in black Africa's struggle against apartheid in South Africa.

True that Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, the new chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, lashed out at those African states which have resumed diplomatic relations with Israel and that the attack was widely endorsed. But it would be a different story when it comes to individual black African states exposed to the aggressive Israeli diplomatic campaign. The Arabs themselves may have provided a vital weapon for Israeli use in the Jewish state's relentless efforts to win over as many African states as possible. The first and foremost argument that the Israelis could use is a question over how much support black Africa enjoys from the Arab World.

The token Arab presence at Harare was not exactly the kind of support and encouragement that the Africans were looking for in their campaign to put an end to apartheid. If anything, it is a clear signal that the Harare summit may be the most important event for black Africa but it is not so for us here in the Arab World.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: No to direct negotiations

JORDAN cannot but reject all alternatives to an international conference for solving the Middle East conflict and settling the Palestine problem. This is a firm national policy which demands the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions pertaining to the matter because Jordan has had long experience with Israel's manoeuvres and tactics and can see no way out of the dilemma except through an international conference to be held under the United Nations umbrella. The implementation of U.N. resolutions on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territory and practical international response to the case of occupation warrant a convening of such a conference. Jordan can never accept any partial solution of the problem and will continue to seek a comprehensive settlement that can guarantee the rights of all parties in the region. Israel, in a bid to deceive the world public opinion, has been repeatedly reiterating its call for direct negotiations with Jordan, a solution which does not achieve anything. We are not concerned with the failure or success of this Israeli campaign but we are concerned with the implementation of United Nations resolutions which we believe can only take place under the umbrella of the United Nations which can guarantee a withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab land before peace can be established.

Al Dustour: Sudan needs Arab help

WHILE seeing off another medical mission to Sudan, Prince Hassan pointed to the threats directed to the Arab and Islamic identity of that African country. He called on Arab countries to extend all possible help to their brothers in Sudan and to the victims of drought and famine there. In fact, the separatist movement in south Sudan is no less serious to that country and to the Arab World than the problem of drought and famine that have killed many people and displaced millions. What used to be a rebellion against the dictatorship of Jaafar Numeiri has now transformed itself into a movement aimed at destroying the Arab identity in Sudan. There is no doubt that the weakness of the central government in Sudan, the deteriorating economic conditions in that country, the weakness of the Arab Nation at large and the disagreements that plague Arab countries have all contributed to encourage the rebel leaders to pursue a drive to impose their will on Khartoum and to wreak havoc to the country's economy. This secessionist movement in south Sudan is being backed by forces hostile to the Arab Nation and harbouring hatred for the Arabs and Islam. Prince Hassan has thus pointed out that Sudan is now falling victim to a new danger following 16 years of dictatorship that sapped the country's resources. We strongly support Prince Hassan's call on the Arabs to rally behind Sudan and extend assistance to their brothers so that they can retain their true Arab identity.

Sawt Al Shaab: Iraq defends the nation

ANOTHER Iranian offensive along the battle front has started and the Iraqi armed forces are now involved in repelling the new attack and thwarting the Iranian invaders' dreams. But the reason behind Iran's continued failure in the war is due mainly to two important facts: The Iraqi warriors' deep faith in defending their soil and their religious beliefs; and Iraq's commitment to protect the Arab Nation. All the Iranian waves of attacks over six years have been crushed and will continue to be crushed because the Iranians are aggressors bent on destroying the Arab Nation and occupying Arab land. The Iranians are posing serious threats to the Arab Nation, and for this reason the Arab masses rejoice over Iraq's victory, and should therefore rally behind the Iraqi people and the Iraqi armed forces to enable them to attain final victory over the enemy.

Ambitious plans, wrong policies caused int'l debt crisis

By Riad Khouri.

THE present crisis in the world economy stems largely from the pursuit of inappropriate policies over the last 15-20 years in both the developed and developing countries. Starting in the mid-60's, many of the former embarked on ambitious social programmes financed by growing public sector deficits. This naturally led to inflationary pressure and was also accompanied by declining rates of growth. At the same time, in an understandable effort to raise living standards, the developing countries were following high-growth policies which were often based on the ability of the developing states to export their products freely, as well as on the availability of foreign capital. However, with the emerging economic crisis in the mid-70's, protectionism and serious international monetary imbalances became more common. One way out of this problem for the non-oil producers of the Third World was borrowing, but this in turn led to a major crisis in the form of vast

sums owed by these states to private institutions and rich countries alike.

The problem of debt has assumed such proportions that it threatens the international financial system and the world economy. The gravity of the situation has recently been underscored by payments difficulties in many countries. The position of these states has become critical with regard to their external debt. Its growing size, coupled with limited export potential combine to pose a severe problem. The outstanding debt of non-oil developing countries has increased over five-fold during the past decade. While in the longer term declining world interest rates will contribute to the improvement of the debt-servicing ability of developing countries, the current debt burden has already reached such alarming levels that any long-term improvement may only succeed in reducing the rate of acceleration of debt service requirements, doing little to solve the basic

problem.

Apart from the grave consequences of this situation for the developing countries themselves, there are a number of far reaching implications for the stability of the international monetary system, the smooth flow of international trade, and world recovery in general. The threat posed to the world economy should not be underestimated; especially catastrophic would be a default by one of the major debtor nations.

The world is only now beginning to emerge from recession, led mainly by a recovery in the United States. But it is far from certain at this stage whether sound growth can be achieved and sustained during the rest of the 80's. The alternative would, unfortunately, be a return to the kind of situation encountered in the 1970's and one of the main issues that will have to be confronted to prevent this is that of international debt. Much has been done since this problem took a dramatic turn for the worse

in the summer of 82, with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) playing a key role in coordinating the efforts of debtor countries, official creditors and commercial banks to get over the immediate difficulty. So far, these efforts have succeeded; the system has remained intact, and a crisis of confidence has been avoided. Debtor nations have acted responsibly, accepting and adopting difficult adjustment measures.

Before the Mexican debt crisis erupted in 1982, debt rescheduling involved small amounts. Now they are huge. During the three years, 1983-85, debt rescheduling agreements between developing countries and their international creditors — governments and banks — averaged \$54 billion a year, compared with an average of only \$5 billion a year during the previous three years. In 1985, developing countries rescheduled a record \$93 billion, equivalent to 13 per cent of their total outstanding debt.

The rescheduling of another \$26 billion of debt was agreed to in principle but not completed. Mexico accounted for the lion's share last year, with a \$49 billion — roughly half the country's total debt. Sizeable agreements were also concluded for Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and the Philippines.

Banks have recognised the need to come up with more financing, in coordination with IMF and official creditors. Despite these successes, the debt problem is by no means over. Unfortunately, there is no general cure for this particular disease. Rather, there are a number of interrelated factors which may act together to help reduce the crisis and perhaps eventually eliminate it.

First, the commercial banks should increase their understanding of the economic and financial position and prospects of individual debtor countries, taking greater account, in bank policies, of the circumstances of each country and

the consequences of lending too little as well as too much.

Second, debtor states should continue their adjustment policies in order to put their economies on a firmer footing.

And finally and most important, the developed countries should support recovery in general and the economies of the Third World in particular by reducing protectionist barriers and cutting interest rates. Does all this sound hopelessly ambitious? Maybe, but the extent of the crisis is such that it will require the co-operation of all to avert the threat to the world economic order. Lebanon's economist and statesman Salim Hoss put his finger on the problem when he stated that "one country's deficit is another country's surplus. Hence to portray only the debtor nations as the entente terrible in the system, as often happens, is completely unfair. Creditor and debtor in many cases are equally guilty. Both, therefore, should carry their respective shares of the blame and of the burden, of any solution."

Like other arms of the state, free press is a must for progress

Dr. Waleed Sa'di

The writer is Jordan's former ambassador in Turkey

TWO events have prompted me to write on the subject of the press in Jordan: First, my agreement to write a weekly column for the Jordan Times; and second, the article by Benjamin C. Bradlee, the executive editor of the Washington Post entitled "State secrets and the press in a free society," which the Jordan Times reprinted in its June 16, 1986 issue.

Not having been a model diplomat all these past years, with little inhibitions to speak out whenever I felt there was a need and openly expressing my convictions on the proposition that if one is motivated by honesty and goodwill and guided by public zeal, then the sky is the limit as to what he or she may say or write. I was wrong, of course. And I know now that one needs to use discretion at various times.

As I make the transit from diplomacy to journalism, where the opportunities are theoretically limitless to express one's thoughts,

I often find myself asking the question: How far can I go in expressing my thoughts and ideas, and whether there are subjects which I cannot trespass into with impunity and immunity? In a nutshell, is there at least a covert code of conduct for journalism?

Then suddenly I read the article by Benjamin C. Bradlee on free press and I became engrossed and absorbed by its analysis and logic. Obviously I realised that the guidelines suggested by Mr. Bradlee need not and perhaps could not apply in Jordan. After all that article was written in the U.S. and for an American audience, albeit it was reprinted in a Jordanian newspaper, which in my humble opinion was quite a feat.

Granted Jordan is part of the "free world" and is essentially a free society; yet it is still a young country and basically a developing one. A behavioural gap naturally exists between "us" in Jordan and "them", for example, in the U.S. Despite this, what Mr. Bradlee had written in his article on the free press remains interesting and

worthy of reflection. He said, inter alia, that a lot of garbage is swept under the rug in the name of national security, that national security is used to cover up a national embarrassment, and that government officials prefer a press that makes their job easier and allows them to proceed with minimum public accountability.

Clearly, not everything that Mr. Bradlee said in his article is the gospel truth. Nevertheless it would be indeed short-sighted and self-defeating in the long run to ignore his cautionary remarks or to sweep them under the rug.

Not in the distant past, there was a debate in the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) on a code of conduct for the press and mass media in general. On the one hand there were the Socialist countries and most of the developing countries which viewed the press as too powerful and influential a tool to be left to the discretion of private individuals, and saw the need for state control. On the other hand there were the Western countries

and other members of the Western democracy club which thought otherwise and reiterated their position that the press was indeed too important an institution to leave under the thumb of governments. I do not suppose that this issue has been resolved for all times, and the ongoing debate on the pros and cons of both sides of the equation will be with us for many years to come.

One thing is clear, however. A free and responsible press constitutes a cornerstone on which a free society can flourish and prosper intellectually and materially. Since no one can possibly have a monopoly on truth and sound judgment, then, a priori, a free society can benefit considerably from the free flow of responsible exchange of ideas, thoughts and information. Without freedom for a responsible press, a nation could suffocate intellectually and in turn politically and economically. If devoid and deprived of free press, a nation would become paralysed and deformed. One may dare also

say that a free, responsible press is no less important than an efficient and just judiciary, nor less relevant than the legislative branch of government. To the system of checks and balances between the three main branches of a government must be added the catalytic role of the press which can lubricate the system and render it more potent and efficient. Hence the title "fourth estate of the realm" was awarded to the press.

But where do we draw the line as to where and how far a free press may infiltrate and operate is the issue which is uppermost on the minds of all serious journalists. It is indeed the very issue which divides free societies from the non-free. On which side of the fence a nation chooses to be determines its true colour. In the final analysis it is the litmus paper which separates a nation from another.

Jordan, thank God, is a country of moderation. It is in the nature of things here to assume a moderate form. Moderation is

almost synonymous with Jordan. Our religion, Islam preaches it and our cultural and political orientation seem to be directed that way.

But moderation means and implies responsible action on the part of the press as well as the government. While the government may legitimately require the press in Jordan to be responsible and informative and serve as a true channel for free exchange of responsible thoughts, likewise the press in Jordan is entitled to ask the government to be equally responsible towards it by nurturing, promoting and protecting it from abuse and whims in order to serve better our free society. What is proposed here is the adoption of an overt code of conduct for journalism in Jordan and the creation of an ad hoc committee composed of representatives from the government, the press and the Bar Association to act as the final arbiter in disputes arising from conflicts of opinion as well as the formulation of policies and guidelines.

Crown Prince urges Afro-Arab ties

(Continued from page 1)

specialised manpower. The preparation of efficient manpower, said the Crown Prince, should meet the labour market needs of African and Arab countries with "special focus on innovation, development and creativity in all walks of life."

The Crown Prince stressed the importance of the citizen as the cornerstone for any targeted development and prosperity. Replying to a question on what were the best means to create a common Arab-African culture capable of eliminating the marks

of socio-cultural and economic retardation left behind by the colonialism, the Crown Prince said "no cultural project would succeed if it is not based on the needs and ambitions of the human being."

Prince Hassan said the similarity of the situation between the Arab and African worlds — increasing dependence on industrialised countries, lack of coordination and facing same problems such food security — "warrants a promotion of scientific research and creativity to shift the countries to productive states."

Sharaf speaks on democracy

(Continued from page 3)

popular representation and participation in the Arab World. Mrs. Sharaf's lecture was followed by a question-and-answer session with Lions Club members and their guests who included present and former ministers, parliament members, Arab diplomats and journalists. The debate focused on whether or not Israel could be considered a democracy, on the relation between democracy and Islamic teachings and principles, on the evaluation of democratic experiences in the Arab World and on freedom of expression in Jordan.

Several participants rejected the classification of Israel as a democratic society since they said "it was established at the expense of the Palestinian people and because it practised racial discrimination against oriental Jews and Palestinians." Others, agreeing on Israeli malpractices against Arabs and oriental Jews, said that Israel nonetheless has a multi-party system and an open, although biased, press which have both been instrumental in strengthening the Israeli position against the Arabs.

Some participants questioned why the Arabs were always "importing" ideas and concepts instead of depending on their heritage and on Islam for drawing up formulae for political participation and representation. Again the audience was divided with some insisting on returning to Islam and Arab heritage without endorsing "alien" concepts while others, including Mrs. Sharaf, were holding the view that "there should be an integration of modern human concepts and our heritage." The main argument of the latter group was that "one

cannot ignore the conclusions of international thinkers regarding the development of human societies but should be careful on endorsing ideas and concepts that could apply to our societies."

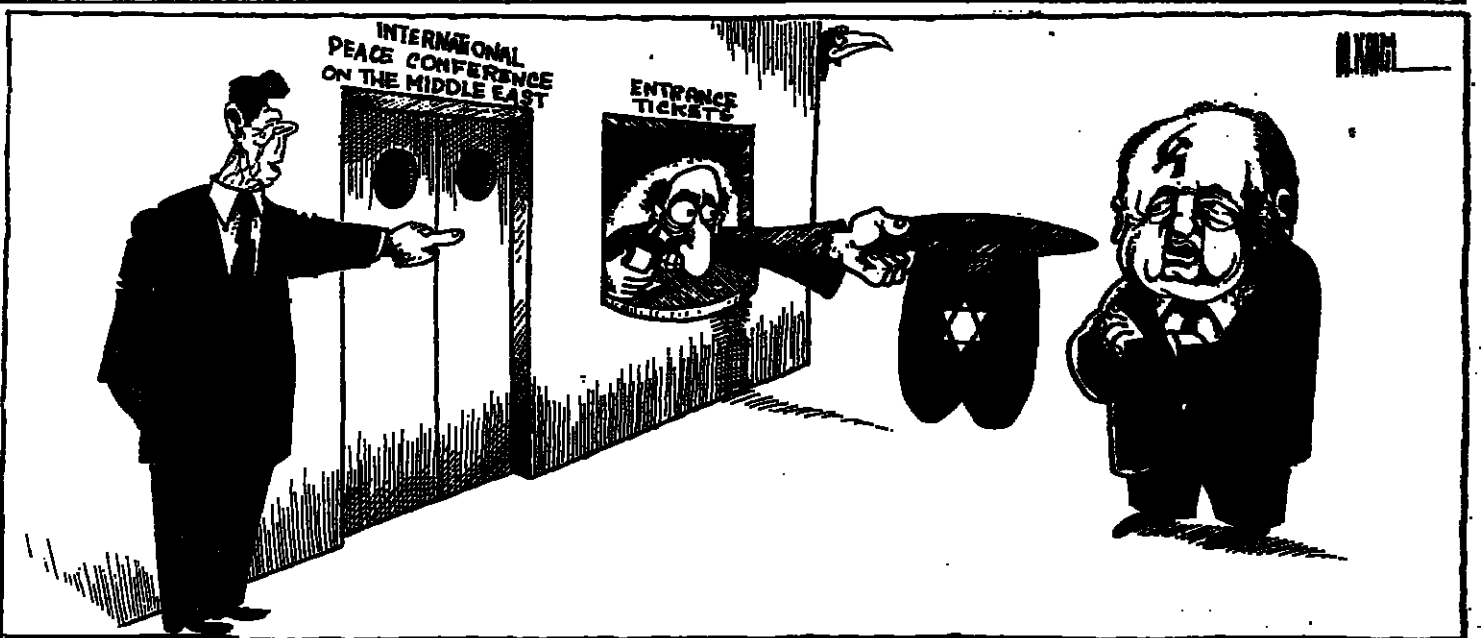
Three women participants raised the issue of the status of women in the Arab World and the influence of the patriarchal system whether at home or in society. Dr. Hoda Fakhouri, a dentist and a regular contributor to Arabic dailies, sent Mrs. Sharaf a written message asking "why it is that a woman who is lecturing about democracy is being addressed and identified through her relationship with her son. Mrs. Fakhouri was commenting on the fact that most men were addressing Mrs. Sharaf as Um Nasser (the mother of Nasser, Mrs. Sharaf's eldest son).

Mrs. Sharaf's lecture received acclaim from those who attended the dinner although some criticised the lecture for not focusing on the actual conditions in Jordan.

Khaled Mahadeen, a well-known columnist, asked Mrs. Sharaf to assess democracy in Jordan through her own experiences as a former information minister. Mrs. Sharaf resigned from her post in January 1985. She declined to comment on the issue.

Some participants also raised questions about present laws in Jordan which curb the freedom of expression and ban the formation of political parties.

The general opinion of the lecture and the debate was positive as many participants said that it had provided an opportunity to discuss important public issues. "If we want to realise democracy, we should start by holding such debates more frequently," one guest said.



Military chief: Moscow won't desert Afghanistan

By Tom Heneghan
Reuters

KABUL — The chief of general staff of the Afghan military forces said he did not know when a partial Soviet troops withdrawal announced by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev would take place.

Lieutenant-General Shahmawaz Tanai told Reuters on August 31 the pullout of six regiments of Soviet forces here, which Western countries say total 115,000, would be "a major step towards improving the prospects of peace in this region."

He stressed that Moscow would not desert Afghanistan if Muslim rebels kept up attacks while the Kremlin withdrew the regiments — about 7,000 men — that Gorbachev said would go by the end of the year.

But asked about a precise pullout date, Tanai answered: "It is in their (the Soviets) military plans. I myself do not know it."

The United States has dismissed as inadequate the plan to withdraw one armoured regiment, two motorised rifle regiments and three-aircraft regiments.

It suggested the withdrawal might be a normal troop rotation and the anti-aircraft regiments were not needed anyway as the Western-backed anti-Communist guerrillas had no aircraft.

But Tanai, who was only 34 when he took over the Afghan military two years ago, argued the pullout of the anti-aircraft regiments was not a hollow gesture.

ground duties," he said in his office at Darulaman Palace, a grand European-style residence built by King Amanullah in the 1920s which now houses the defence ministry.

One of Moscow's two Kabul military bases is close by and many signs in the palace, a favourite target for rebel rocket attacks, were in Russian.

Asked about Stingers and Blowpipes, the U.S. and British-made anti-aircraft missiles Washington is reported to have delivered to the rebels, Tanai said he had no indication the guerrillas had received them.

"We have not yet seen them," he said. "We cannot say whether they are being used or not."

The soft-spoken general laughed off Western media reports quoting Afghan rebels in Peshawar last September as saying he had died in a pitched battle against the guerrillas.

"This is not the first time," he remarked. "I was killed twice before, according to local rumours, but this was the first time it made the international press."

He also played down stern criticisms of the army that Communist Party leader Najibullah has made in recent months.

The tough-talking Najibullah, an ex-secret police chief who replaced President Babrak Karmal as party leader in May, said the army was not drafting enough men to keep it at full strength and desertions continued to deplete its ranks.

Tanai said Najibullah only criticised "technical aspects" of

the draft, which residents say is enforced by press gangs rounding up young men off the streets, and that actual desertion was low.

The general also said that Najibullah had taken over as commander-in-chief, edging out Karmal who, since he became head of state, should be the supreme commander.

Tanai declined to give figures for desertions or the strength of the Afghan and Soviet armies here. Western countries say the Afghan army has shrunk to about half the 80,000 total it had before Kabul's 1978 Communist coup.

Asked about the rebels, Tanai said they still caused Kabul problems along the border with Pakistan and in cities like Kandahar in the south and Herat near the Iranian border, all scenes of heavy fighting this year.

But he said the Afghan army was steadily improving in its fight against the Pakistan-based guerrillas, who call themselves Mujahideen (Islamic warriors) but are branded as counter-revolutionaries by Kabul.

"The counter-revolutionaries cannot fight us face to face," he said. "If Western imperialists and other reactionary countries stopped their interference (i.e. military aid to the rebels), I assure you the counter-revolutionaries could not continue fighting even one week."

The United States, Pakistan, China and conservative Arab states like Saudi Arabia are the rebels' main backers.

Asked about reports that Panjshir Valley rebel commander

Ahmad Shah Masood was uniting rebel groups across northern Afghanistan, the general said: "Masood cannot do anything. He has lost a lot of men and equipment in our operations against him. He does not have the power to unite the counter-revolutionaries and attack us."

Tanai said he knew the subject well because he commanded Afghan forces in the Panjshir Valley, a former rebel stronghold north of Kabul, before taking up his present post.

"Masood escaped from us several times," he remarked. "But he is not a real commander. He has just manipulated people against us."

Tanai said he was a commander, specialist trained here and also in the Soviet Union for two years before the 1978 coup.

Rebels based in Peshawar say Afghan and Soviet helicopter commando attacks along guerrilla supply routes in eastern and southern Afghanistan have become markedly more effective since Tanai took over.

"I have used my experience," the general said modestly. Asked about rumours that women might be sent to fight the rebels, Tanai noted Najibullah had urged all women to join but added the army did not need more women than it already had.

"If we need them, they will serve us, but behind the front lines," he explained. "There are not many women in the army now and most are working in hospitals, logistics and in administration."

Redevelopment tarnishes old-fashioned elegance of 'fair city'

By Ben Dobbin
The Associated Press

DUBLIN, Ireland — The forbidding twin granite blocks of Dublin's new city hall stand on a ninth-century Viking settlement partly obscuring the view from the River Liffey of medieval Christchurch Cathedral.

The new buildings, of eight and 10 stories, are at the heart of a controversy raging among Dubliners over how the "fair city" should look. Those who say Dublin must build with the times are running up against those like pop singer Bob Geldof, who staged rock concerts for African famine relief, who say it has been destroyed by developers.

With scores of multi-story buildings rearing up over the last 25 years, redevelopment has endangered Dublin's identity as one of Europe's most intact 18th-century cities.

It is still an intimate capital, distinguished by cobbled streets, Georgian squares, manicured parks, cozy pubs and low-landscaped terraces lining the quays that run along the River Liffey through the city.

But for the most part, only the big streets of the Dublin of 1904 that James Joyce immortalised in "Ulysses" have survived and many are changed utterly.

Hundreds of elegant Georgian buildings with their arched, columned doorways, high-ceilinged rooms and iron-grilled fireplaces have been swept away.

Dating from the reigns of the four King Georges of England between 1714 and 1830, many had fallen into disrepair, with some streets turned into tenement

housing for the poor.

The thoroughfare of O'Connell Street, shorn of its old-fashioned splendour, is cluttered with fast-food restaurants, neon advertisements, mirror-glass and concrete facades.

Dublin Corporation, the city's metropolitan authority, doesn't deny that mistakes were made. Spokesman Declan McCulloch blames them on the mood of the 1960s, when Ireland was graduating from sleepy, agrarian society to modern industrial state and joining the European Economic Community.

"There was an awful lot of development in the city at a very, very fast rate," he said. "Ireland was growing with the times."

But to Frank McDonald, an Irish Times journalist, it was "the destruction of Dublin," the title he chose for a best-selling book that has crystallised the controversy and made it a talking point at Dublin dinner parties.

"The city is really at the most critical point in its recent history, the point at which it can either be saved or totally destroyed," McDonald said in an interview.

McDonald claims the replacement of classic Georgian and Victorian architecture with shoddy office blocks was permitted by corrupt government officials who granted planning permission to developers "simply interested in making money as fast as possible."

Laments 71-year-old Niall Montgomery, one of Dublin's most respected architects: "There's nothing in it (Dublin) but trash. It's a heap."

Today a metropolis for nearly one-third of Ireland's 3.5 million people, Dublin originated as a

settlement on marshes known as "dubh finn" (dark pool).

The Vikings turned it into a naval base and capital a thousand years ago, and it reached its heyday in the 18th century. But it declined into a provincial backwater after 1800 when Ireland was made a part of Britain and Dublin ceased to be a capital city.

Although celebrated in song as the fair city of Molly Malone the fishmonger, Dublin has never been universally loved for its looks.

Novelist Sean O'Casey described the houses on a typical Dublin street as "a long, lurching row of discontented incurables, smirched with age-long marks of age, fever, cancer and consumption, the sordid tears of little children, and the sighs of disappointed newly married girls."

Even the compliments are often backhanded.

"Dublin, though a place much worse than London, is not so bad as Iceland," wrote Dr. Samuel Johnson in 1791.

Dublin was the seat of Ireland's Anglo-protestant elite under British rule, and many native Roman Catholics, particularly rural folk, had a "kind of unconscious, ingrained contempt for the city," McDonald says.

By the 1960s, parts of Dublin were so grim that the East Berlin scenes of "The Spy Who Came in from the Cold" were shot there.

This image had given the city an inferiority complex, says McDonald. "The fact that we didn't have any high-rise buildings made people feel that Dublin was somehow emasculated."



Dublin's 18th century classical and Georgian architecture is being threatened by the rise of

multi-story buildings (File photo)

The corporation's decision to build its new home at Wood Quay on the Liffey gave Ireland's late-blooming environmental movement a cause to rally around.

The discovery of Viking and Norman remains on the land earmarked for city hall provoked calls for its preservation as a national monument.

But not even rallies and a high court injunction could stop the corporation. It bulldozed the site, and only then allowed an incomplete excavation of what

was left, McDonald wrote. Now, spiraling costs have delayed plans to build a Viking museum under the corporation complex.

Carities complain that the 20-million-pound (\$27-million) city hall buildings resemble giant beehives.

Architect Sam Stephenson, predicts that "in about 40 or 50 years you'll find people clamouring for the preservation of some of the buildings that are going up now."

The Irish government recently

promised 10 million pounds (\$13 million) for a city-centre facelift. It has also earmarked the quays, the docks, the decaying Georgian enclave of Henrietta Street and the north inner city for restoration.

But the developers may yet win. The property market is in a slump, but could improve. Conservation is costly, too.

Architect Niall Montgomery sees little hope of change, saying in an interview: "There isn't the will and there isn't the money."

John Paul brings the devil back to life

By Samuel Koo
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — The devil, who has waned in Christian consciousness over the years, got more than his due at the Vatican this summer when he was roundly denounced by Pope John Paul II.

"Satan is a cosmic liar and murderer," the Pope told pilgrims as he wound up a series of sermons that began with angels and ended with the devil.

The week before, John Paul invoked stark, biblical images, portraying the devil as the "unclean spirit," "tempter," "evil one" and "anti-Christ" and as lion, dragon and serpent.

The Pope said the devil is still very much in the world, "tempting men to evil... to turn them away from the law of God."

Italian newspapers and magazines quickly seized on the sermons — the first papal pronouncement on the subject in nearly 15 years — running special features and cartoons of a grotesque creature with horns and tail and armed with a trident battling a white-robed John Paul.

His explanation of the origin and meaning of the devil came at the end of six weeks of teachings on God's creation of "all things seen and unseen," including angels.

The devil, in the church's teaching, is an angel gone bad, a potent force in a constant struggle with good, who tries to tip the balance of morality in "his" favour. John Paul's description stuck closely to that traditional line.

But the Pope's sermons made headlines because the Roman Catholic church's doctrine on the devil has largely gone out of fashion over the past two centuries.

Many theologians today view the devil as a metaphor used to explain the presence of evil in man and in the world. And polls in several European countries over the past 15 years have shown that most Roman Catholics do not take the doctrine of the devil seriously.

John Paul said he wanted to prepare followers for the end of the world, as prophesied in the Bible, and to "clarify the true faith of the church against those who

pervert it by exaggerating the importance of the devil or by denying or minimising his malevolent power."

Monsignor Corrado Balducci, a noted Vatican expert on demonology, said the Pope's lecture was designed to restore "the rightful perspective" to the church's doctrine of the devil.

Quoting from the Bible, the Pope described devils as "angels who have sinned" and subsequently are "cast in the gloomy abysses of hell" by God. But because of the sin of "our first parents, this fallen angel has acquired dominion over man to a certain extent."

Central to his message was that "the presence of satan... becomes all the more acute when man and society depart from God." It was interpreted by Vatican officials as a warning against the advance of atheism in the modern world.

The Pope asserted that satan "has the skill in the world to induce people to deny his existence in the name of rationalism and of every other system of thought which seeks all possible means to avoid recognising his activity."

Until the 18th century, the church may have overemphasised the concept of the devil, fanning fatalism even among Christians, Balducci said.

"But in the modern world, by contrast, the teaching on the devil has lost its acceptance and so the balance should be restored," he said.

A Vatican official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Pope appeared to be motivated by two concerns — that Roman Catholics should not lose sight of the devil's existence, and by teaching authoritatively on the doctrine, the church can stem the rise of satanic cults and "popular exorcisms" carried out by lay people without church approval.

In February, Cardinal Anastasio Alberto Ballestrero of Turin, a northern Italian industrial city, named six exorcists — priests who are charged with casting out demons.

It followed a call from Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the prefect of the Vatican congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, for more formal church control over exorcism.

Amid social progress, bride burning seems on the rise in India

By June Kronholz
The Wall Street Journal

NEW DELHI — When Kumari Kumari married a patent-office typist chosen for her by her family, her dowry included a sewing machine, a divan, a table, a steel armchair, two wristwatches for her husband, \$1,300 in gold and some cash. All this cost \$3,300, twice her father's yearly income as an herbal-medicine doctor.

But in three months, Ajit Kumar contends, his son-in-law, Atmaran Gyan, was back for more: a one-quarter share in the Kumars' apartment on a mud road, and \$1,700 to finance a trip to Bombay, where Mr. Gyan planned to peddle a film script. "I told him clearly, 'I have paid too much already,'" says Mr. Kumar. "I told him, 'I will not pay more.'"

Twelve days later — while Mr. Gyan's father says, his family was watching television — the young woman was charred in a kerosene fire so intense that only her fingertips weren't incinerated. Says Mr. Kumar, "she told me, 'They have burned me.' An hour later, she died."

"Very few" murders

Kanwaljeet Deol, who heads a police unit that investigates violence against women, insists that rising dowry demands are behind only a third of the deaths — and that, anyway, "very few of them" are murders. She says the rest are suicides. But whoever lights the match, women's groups contend, and for whatever reason, bride burning draws its fuel from India's cruel disregard for women.

"There is the tendency everywhere to exploit the vulnerability of women," says Subharda Butalia, the founder of a women's-advocacy group called Karmika. And certainly the West has its counterparts in wife-beating and rape. But in few countries are women as vulnerable as in India, where tradition and economics prescribe a life of silent suffering and now constitute a growing brutality.

On a placid afternoon, Atmaran Gyan sits himself on the roof of his family's house while, downstairs, his father speculates that the late Mrs. Gyan, a nurse, perhaps suffered from "some ladies' disease" and set herself ablaze. It is a story that Karmika is challenging in court. But the police, at least, believe it. They have classified the death a suicide.

The status of women

Despite 15 years of leadership by a female prime minister and

decades of social progress, the status of women in India is declining in some ways instead of improving. Modern medicine enable couples to indulge the ancient Indian preference for baby boys: So-called sex-determination clinics flourish, and in a recent study of 8,000 abortions in Bombay, a medical researcher reported that 7,999 were of female fetuses.

Mechanisation is tossing women out of wage-paying jobs in mines, factories and mills: "Men run the new machines. And yet modern ideas are slow to percolate. Under pressure from religious conservatives, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government recently freed Muslim men from the obligation of supporting their wives after a divorce. Hindu men still can be required to pay maintenance, but at a maximum of \$42 a month — and they keep the savings and property."

Landed Indians long have paid a dowry. Hindu law precludes a daughter from inheriting her family's land, so a dowry of gold and jewellery would represent her share of the family wealth. India banned the dowry as a social evil in 1961 but never enforced the law. And in India's headlong rush to modernity, the dowry flourished and spread instead of receded.

A matter of honour

Now, instead of jewellery, something more visible is required by in-laws and izat, or family honour. A refrigerator or television set, perhaps, that will proclaim a family's wealth and in that way improve its social standing. And because izat is at stake, the dowry is as popular with the rich and educated as with the poor, and its size balloons accordingly.

When Neelam Prakash, a young woman with a master's degree, married Jendara Kumar Gupta, who had a government job, her father, Chandra, included a motor scooter in the \$8,300 dowry — and revels in the telling. But six months later, says Mr. Prakash, grief outlined on his face, his son-in-law was back for \$800 more — to bribe a private school into giving his wife a job, the young man said. "The dowry was already settled, it was paid, it was on a good scale," says Mr. Prakash, a cloth merchant. Eleven days later, his daughter burned to death. Police ruled her death a suicide, too.

So onerous are dowry demands that female infanticide is resurging in parts of India, the government

conceded recently. The magazine India Today estimates that 6,000 baby girls have been poisoned in just one county in the state of Tamil Nadu in the past decade. Parents freely admitted killing to avoid the burden of a dowry 15 or 16 years later.

But the ignominy of an unmarried daughter is even more burdensome. There is little room in Indian society for an unmarried woman and less for a divorcee. Social life revolves around the family, and Hindu rituals can't be performed without a spouse.

Thus, even Laxman Das Goel, a drug addict whose two previous wives died of burns, could find a third wife and a third dowry. In July, New Delhi police arrested the 26-year-old man — whose neighbour calls him "a nice boy" — after his third wife also died in a blaze.

Many Indians assign economic causes to bride burning and cite difficult times for its apparent increase. In a nation of 755 million people, there are only 24 million wage-paying jobs, and the number of unemployed people in the cities and with educations is growing. A government clerk earns about \$950 a year. An income of \$2,000 puts a family firmly in the middle class.

Shortcut to acquisition

And meanwhile, the government's new economic programme has made available consumer items that were unimaginable a few years ago — kitchen gadgets, tape decks, sporty cars. In that climate,

suggests Karmika's Mrs. Butalia, "dowry is the shortest cut to acquisition" — and two dowries a seldom-prosecuted path to even more.

But others say the deeper cause is a culture that offers women few options outside marriage and little comfort within it. Indian marriages generally are still arranged, and brides still live with their in-laws, whom they are unlikely to have met before the wedding.

"You don't expect love," says psychologist Sudir Kakar — and indeed, the ties between mothers and sons are traditionally far stronger than between husbands and wives in India. In a match founded on a financial arrangement, he adds, a young bride has "neither love nor family bonds" for protection.

A traditional admonition

Besides, a divorced daughter is a blight on family honour and can ruin her sisters' chances of a match. Thus, a bride leaves home with a traditional admonition: We are sending your bridal palanquin today, her parents tell her; let only your corpse return.

India's legal system seems only a faint deterrent to bride burning. New Delhi police have brought murder charges in 143 burning in the past 2½ years, but in only 16 cases have there been any convictions. And last October, the Indian Supreme Court pronounced the first-ever death penalty in a bride burning case, sentencing the son of a New Delhi grocer to hang for the murder of

his 19-year-old wife, Sudha Goel. So confident was the man of acquittal that he had taken another wife, and another dowry, while the court was hearing his appeal.

The odds of a murder conviction for bride burning are so daunting that even feminist lawyers have begun pressing cases under a lesser charge: abetment to suicide. The main problem with prosecuting a murder charge, they say, is that there usually are few physical clues.

Kerosene is a common cooking fuel in India, so a kerosene fire can easily be passed off as a kitchen accident. Because the crime takes place at home, evidence can be cleared away long before the police arrive. And in the home of hostile in-laws, there are no witnesses. When Darise John burned to death in 1984, none of the 25 in-laws living in the same New Delhi house came to her rescue.

Courts are reluctant to hand down murder convictions on the basis of circumstantial evidence. Karmika's Mrs. Butalia founded her group in 1978 after hearing a quarrel and then, a few minutes later, seeing her neighbour consumed by fire. "I saw the flames, I heard the screams, but I didn't see the match," says Mrs. Butalia. The husband was acquitted of any crime.

Even dying declarations have failed to bring murder convictions. Last year, a judge acquitted a New Delhi man of murdering his wife although the evidence included five separate death-bed statements. The judge said that

the woman, Janak Kumari, was trying to frame her husband — and with burns over 85 per cent of her body, she probably wasn't fit to make a statement anyway, he added.

New legislation

For its part, the Indian Parliament recently passed a law making dowry a criminal offense. But the law doesn't define dowry. "A fridge, a colour TV, a video — those are expected, they aren't dowry in our culture," says Suman Khrushnakant, a social worker and women's activist. Nor does the new law give the police any enforcement power. It is up to the families and wedding guests to complain — which, even aside from the scandal, is unlikely because the law punishes the dowry giver and taker alike.

Women argue that only a marked change in their status will stop dowry and its abuses, and Kanwaljeet Deol, one of only two female police inspectors in India, predicts that this will happen "in 30 or 40 years, a short time when you consider the centuries of women's suppression." But in a country that measures its history in millennia and empires, that seems optimistically short.

Immersed in sorrow one evening, Neelam Prakash's father tells of her marriage and death while his younger daughter listens in. Surely her marriage won't also be arranged, it is suggested; surely there won't be another dowry. Mr. Prakash looks up in surprise. "But that is our way," he says. "In India, that is our custom." And for another generation, at least, the matter is settled.

Killing provides insight into lives of young New Yorkers

By Kim I. Mills
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The strangling death of an 18-year-old woman during a sexual encounter with a friend in Central Park this week has focused attention on the racy lifestyles of affluent young New Yorkers.

"It really has all the trappings, doesn't it?" said Ronald Stewart, headmaster at the York Preparatory School, a high school the accused slayer attended. "An upper-class girl, an upper-class boy supposedly doing all those titillating things, exposing the privileged. It's no wonder it's front-page news."

The city's major newspapers have printed lengthy articles on the sensational case and how it has affected well-to-do acquaintances of the couple.

"Slaying's notoriety touches

young crowd on 'the circuit,'" the New York Times' front-page headline said Friday, guffawing to the expensive bars and cafes where they congregate.

A bicyclist found the partially clothed body of Jennifer Dawn Levin in the park early Tuesday, several hours after she was seen with friends in an east-side bar that caters to a jet-set group of young, wealthy college students.

Miss Levin left the bar with Robert Chambers, a 19-year-old college dropout she had dated several times, police said. Chambers was arrested later in the day at the expensive townhouse near the park where he lived with his divorced mother. He was charged with murder.

Chambers told police he choked Miss Levin reflexively when she hurt him during a sexual encounter that "got rough" on a grassy knoll in the park.

Police said Miss Levin appeared to have been sexually assaulted and died from asphyxiation due to strangulation. They said Chambers had scratches on his face and chest that indicated Miss Levin had tried to fight him off.

Chambers attended several New York private schools, including York Prep. Headmaster Stewart described Chambers as "an attractive, outgoing, athletic, social young man" who was "not a particularly good student."

Miss Levin lived with her father, a real estate broker, and stepmother in the Arty Soho district of Manhattan. She graduated last spring from the private Baldwin School in New York and had planned to enter an expensive private college in Boston next week.

Scott Bar-Tzvi, a friend of Miss Levin and Chambers, said social life of the young people in their set centered on a bar that would serve

them liquor, even though they were under the legal drinking age of 21.

Police said many used forged identifications with higher ages to evade the rules.

"Our whole world, everyone that comes here, everything that happens here, it turns it upside down," said Francesca Coloma, one of three young women who dated Chambers frequently. The slaying also has brought new notoriety to Central Park, which has a reputation for crime that police say is exaggerated.

Capt. Michael Julian of the New York City Police described the tree-filled park set amid high-rise buildings as a "haven from urban life" and expressed concern that "people would get scared and feel they can't use the park without fear."

There were five murders in the park last year, and three so far this year.

Details of 1957 U.S. H-bomb accident told by crew member

By Dong Willis
The Associated Press

ORANGEVALE, California — A crewman on the bomber that accidentally dropped a hydrogen bomb 29 years ago says it happened when the plane hit turbulence just as an officer was setting a safety pin that secured the bomb for landing.

George Houston, 61, radio operator of the B-36 that dropped the bomb near Albuquerque, New Mexico, said Thursday that to keep from falling, the officer grabbed the mechanism the bombardier uses to release the bomb.

The bomb crashed to earth without setting off a nuclear blast. For a few moments members of the crew thought the man might also have gone down with the bomb, Houston said.

"It's one of those things that's terrifying at the time, but is funny afterward," Houston said. He compared the sequence of the 1964 film "Dr. Strangelove," in which a bomber pilot releases a stuck H-bomb by hand and rides it out of the plane to his death in a nuclear explosion.

But in the accident described by Houston in an Associated Press interview, the navigator was trying to secure, not release the bomb. He saved himself from falling and crawled back from the bomb bay "whiter than any sheet you ever saw."

The May 22, 1957, accident involving a nuclear weapon was first confirmed by the U.S. Air Force in 1981. But no specifics were released until Wednesday, when the Albuquerque Journal published an account based on military documents obtained through the freedom of

information act.

The accident about six kilometers from Kirtland Air Force Base in an uninhabited area south of Albuquerque involved a hydrogen bomb, believed to be more than 10 megatons. It said impact of the bomb triggered non-nuclear explosives that are part of the bomb, but the nuclear portion did not detonate.

Houston blamed the accident on what he described as an extremely awkward procedure in which an officer, usually the navigator, had to climb around the bomb at the start and end of each flight "hanging literally by his toes" to set a large pin that secured the bomb.

Houston said that on the flight, in which their 10-engine strategic air command B-36 was ferrying the bomb from Biggs Army Field in Texas to Kirtland, the plane was preparing to land when it hit turbulent air as the navigator was in the bomb bay setting the pin.

"He grabbed something to keep from falling and ... it was the mechanism the bombardier uses to release the unit (bomb). The bomb bay doors were closed, but it took them with it," Houston said. He said the crew "knew instantly we'd dropped the bomb" because the plane lurched upward due to the lost weight, and they didn't know whether the navigator had gone down with the bomb until he emerged from the damaged bomb bay.

Houston said he immediately radioed that they had dropped a hydrogen bomb.

"We were met by quite a group of VPs when we landed," he added. All 13 crew members were questioned extensively, but none was ever disciplined to his knowledge.

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Turnbull ousts Mandlikova from U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — Veteran Wendy Turnbull of Australia pulled off one of the biggest shocks of the U.S. Open tennis championships Monday night, ousting defending women's champion Hana Mandlikova 6-4, 1-6, 6-3.

The victory sends the 33-year-old Turnbull, the oldest player left in the singles competition, into a quarterfinal match against seventh-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia.

"I guess when you're over 30 people start writing you off," Turnbull, who is playing in her 10th U.S. Open, said.

In 1977, she was runnerup to Chris Evert Lloyd and has been a semifinalist twice, the last time two years ago.

Earlier in the day, the two top seeds, Ivan Lendl and Martina Navratilova, rolled into the quarterfinals with straight-set victories.

Lendl, defending the title he won last year, moved into high gear in the second set as he eliminated 15th-seeded Brad Gilbert 7-5, 6-1, 6-2.

Seeking her third U.S. Open women's singles crown in four years, Navratilova crushed Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini, the no. 11 seed, 6-4, 6-2.

In other men's matches Monday, no. 4 Stefan Edberg of Sweden gained a quarterfinal berth by stopping Dan Goldie 6-3, 6-2, 6-2, while Tim Wilkison eliminated Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union 6-0, 6-2, 6-3.

In the women's singles, no. 5 Pam Shriver, Navratilova's doubles partner, also won in straight sets, downing no. 15 Barbara Jordan 6-4, 6-4. The victory pits the close friends against each other in Tuesday's quarterfinals.

Martina's always there when I'm here," Shriver said of the quarterfinals. "We just go together."

All of the other women's winners, including Lloyd, a six-time winner of America's premier tennis event who is seeded second this year, had to go three sets to post victories.

Lloyd outlasted no. 14 Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden 6-2, 2-6, 6-2; no. 9 Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria nipped no. 6 Claudia

score was 40-30.

She then netted a backhand to allow Turnbull to pull to deuce. Twice more Mandlikova reached game point. And twice more Turnbull fought back to deuce.

Then Mandlikova sailed a backhand long, an unforced error that gave Turnbull match point. And when Mandlikova netted a forehand volley off the next service return, the match was over and the defending champion was ousted.

Gilbert fought Lendl on even terms in the opening set, breaking the Czechoslovak's serve in the seventh game to put the set back on serve. But Lendl, ranked no. 1 in the world, closed out the first set by breaking Gilbert in the 12th game at 30.

After that, it was all Lendl. "I started missing a lot of first serves and then he picked up his game a lot," Gilbert said. "He started to pass really well. Then I got a little discouraged. I wasn't sure what to do — if I should stay back or come in."

There was nothing indecisive about Lendl, who already has won seven titles this year, including the French Open.

He broke Gilbert's service twice in each of the next two sets to move one step closer to his second straight U.S. Open crown.

"I think after the first set he got broken mentally," Lendl said of Gilbert. "He felt he has to win now three out of four (sets), and he knows I'm going to run forever. I'm hitting the ball solid. I feel great physically. I feel strong. I feel quick and I feel I'm not going to tire out."

Navratilova reeled off the first four games in her match with Sabatini. After the Argentine teenager took the next three games, breaking Navratilova's service from deuce in the sixth game, the world's top-ranked woman held her next service game

at love to close out the set.

Sabatini opened the second set by holding, but Navratilova took six of the next seven games in her rush into the quarterfinals.

Lloyd also rolled through the first set before running into trouble with her Swedish foe.

But Lloyd sounded a warning about the grip she and Navratilova have on the top of the rankings.

"It used to be Martina and me were dominating, and now we're not," Lloyd said. "We both have our losses. I think gradually the gap is closing, but it's going to take some time."

It was Lloyd's 87th match victory in U.S. Open competition, increasing her own record.

Graf, considered the heir-apparent to Navratilova and Lloyd, won her ninth career match on the hard courts of the national tennis centre in this, her third U.S. Open. But she needed three sets because, she said later, she was rushing her shots in the second set.

In the third set, "I was a little bit more patient," Graf said. "And I was not trying to hit every ball (hard)."

Leading the American invasion now at the U.S. Open are Todd Witsken and Gary Donnelly, two former collegiate players.

After the men's singles field was pared to 16 players, seven Americans remained, although the two biggest names — John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors — were sitting on the sidelines.

But Witsken and Donnelly, both making their first appearance in the 128-player tourney, surprisingly still were in the hunt for the title.

"I really can't explain it," Donnelly said when asked how he had upset 13th-seeded Anders Jarryd of Sweden in the third round.

Witsken knew what he had to do to knock out Connors, the five-time U.S. Open champion who was seeded sixth this year.

"I wanted to get in whenever I could, but I wanted to make sure that it was really a good opportunity for me to come in," Witsken said.

Donnelly's next opponent is third-seeded Boris Becker of West Germany, the two-time Wimbledon champion. Witsken's fourth-round foe will be hard-serving Milan Srejber of Czechoslovakia.

A native of Indianapolis, Witsken was a member of the U.S. junior Davis Cup team in 1983 and 1984. And he believes his age, 22, worked in his favour against Connors, who turns 34 on Tuesday.

"I never played him five or six years ago," Witsken said of Connors, who has dominated the sport in the past but has gone nearly two years without a tournament title. "He hits the ball very hard, but he doesn't have a huge forehand like (Ivan) Lendl where it could be a winner at any moment."

"He basically wins the point by keeping you deep, moving you around the court and doesn't give you an opportunity to come in. That's how he hurts you," he said. Donnelly's entry into the fourth round was even more of a surprise, because he hadn't gotten past the first round in singles in his previous six tournaments. Ranked 211th in the world in singles, Donnelly had made his mark in tennis as a doubles player.

In July, he teamed with Peter Fleming to reach the final of the men's doubles at Wimbledon. A resident of Scottsdale, Arizona, Donnelly also has posted good doubles results with Ernie Fernandez, Ken Flach, Mark Dickson, Libor Pimek, Robert Seguso, Tim Wilkison, Butch Walts and Kelly Evernden.

Search begins for missing adventurers

PEKING (AP) — An 11-member Sino-American expedition rafting down remote sections of the Yangtze River failed to make a riverside rendezvous and search parties have been sent out to find the adventurers, the wife of the team leader said Tuesday.

Jan Warren, wife of American Ken Warren, 59, said in a telephone interview from Batang, a town on the border of Sichuan province and Tibet, that the team was six days overdue in arriving

there.

She said there had been no radio contact with the seven Americans and four Chinese for nine days. The team left its last way station, Dege, on Aug. 23 for the fourth stage of their planned 3,200-kilometre voyage from the source of China's largest river.

That stretch to Batang, comprising 269 kilometres of gorges and whitewater, claimed the lives of three members of a

Chinese expedition which is on the river ahead of the Warren team.

Mrs. Warren said telegrams had been sent out to communities along the river asking their assistance in locating the team. The government of Tibet autonomous region had been asked to help in search operations, and helicopter support had been requested, she said.

She said a scouting party on horseback had travelled 30 kilometres up the river from Batang Monday, but had not found any trace of the team.

Balloonists escape disaster, set new Atlantic record

ALMERE, Netherlands (R) — Three Dutch balloonists set a record for an Atlantic crossing Tuesday but just escaped disaster after sharply losing height over an area packed with busy factories, flight officials said.

Operations leader Leo Tekstra told Reuters by telephone from the expedition control centre that the crew were forced to ditch sacks of lead ballast hurriedly over the industrial town of Velsen, near Amsterdam, after encountering a sudden downdraught while crossing the coastline at 0515 GMT.

Two bags smashed through the roofs of a steel plant and frozen fish factory. Police said although one landed in a cloakroom just around clocking-on time no one was hurt. Damage could run into thousands of guilders, they said.

"They were losing height fast and had to drop ballast quickly because the burners could not compensate — it was the only way to save the balloon and

themselves," Tekstra said.

"The balloon was very close to the ground. The crew and people on the ground could have been hurt," he said from the special control centre at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport.

The 15-story-high Dutch Viking balloon gained height, skirted Schiphol and the crew then sought a site for touchdown. The tiny gondola turned over before landing with a jolt at 0608 GMT in a cornfield near Almere, on the South Flevoland polder reclaimed from the sea in the 1960s.

The crew clocked a time of 50 hours and 14 minutes, nearly two hours faster than the previous record in 1984 by a solo American balloonist. The trio were the first Europeans to cross the Atlantic by balloon.

Hundreds of people watched as the team — Henk Brink, 43, his wife Evelien, 30, and Willem Hageman, 39 — emerged shaken from the craft. Henk Brink was taken to hospital but officials said

later he was only bruised while handling the burners before landing.

One driver was so distracted by the spectacle that he careened into a lamp post. He was not hurt but the car was wrecked.

Evelien Brink, the first woman to make the trip, told reporters the three were tired and had slept little during the voyage from St. John's, Newfoundland. They took turns at observing, steering and resting.

The crew, backed by computer-aided teams on both sides of the ocean, waited nearly a month for the right conditions before setting off from a soccer field early on Sunday.

Once aloft, they were whisked along at up to 125 KPH (78 MPH) and even had to descend at one stage to reduce speed to avoid making landfall at night or overshooting the Netherlands.

The flight, which cost around \$5.5 million, aimed to reach Europe and the Dutch landing was heralded as a bonus.

Japanese wins 10th consecutive gold medal in cycling tourney

COLORADO SPRINGS (R) — Japan's Koichi Nakano won an unparalleled 10th straight gold medal in the world cycling championships Tuesday night, dismissing all challengers with masterful tactics in the professional match sprints.

Frueler of Switzerland extended another remarkable streak in the final event of the track competition, winning his sixth consecutive professional points race with drafting help from his two teammates.

Jeannie Longo of France rode a world best time in the 3,000 metres individual pursuit to reverse the result of the last two world finals by defeating American Rebecca Twigg Whitehead.

The 30-year-old Nakano, who

has dominated the lucrative Kierin racing circuit in Japan for a decade, came into the championships a heavy favourite despite a training accident in last May in which he broke five ribs and punctured a lung.

The stoutly built champion displayed nothing but perfection as Japanese cyclists won all three medals in an event that has been compared to everything from a chess match to a fox hunt. Hideyuki Matsui won the silver medal and Nobuyuki Tawara the bronze.

Nakano, satisfied with 10 championship titles in 10 attempts, said this was his last world championship match sprint race, but added he had no thoughts of retirement from professional racing at home.

"I'm tired. I don't want anyone to hate me for going for the 11th title," he told reporters. "It is a good place to stop."

Of the Japanese Kierin circuit, which has made him a millionaire, Nakano said: "It is my life's work, so I will continue to do this to eat."

While Nakano's individual effort was cheered by a crowd of about 6,000 on a cold and damp night, the spectators jeered 27-year-old Frueler periodically as his two teammates in the 21-rider field worked hard to ensure his victory.

Frueler's partners took turns leading the pack in the 50 kilometre race so that he could ride in their aerodynamic wakes, saving strength for the point-winning sprints every five laps.

World chess championship starts today in Leningrad with 13th game

MOSCOW (R) — The second leg of the world chess championship opens in Leningrad Wednesday with titleholder Garry Kasparov one point ahead of challenger Anatoly Karpov and favourite to

keep his crown.

The two Soviet archrivals play the 13th game of their 24-game series in a concert hall of the Leningrad Hotel after 12 encounters in London which left Kasparov leading by 6½ points to 5½.

"I think the play has been of a higher standard than at our previous matches," Kasparov told the official newspaper Pravda this week. "Of course, both Karpov and I have made our mistakes but these were perhaps inevitable in this kind of competition where we have played each other an astronomical 84 times."

Karpov said: "Although I am content with the creative content

of the play, I am displeased with its result. I have reason to reproach myself for my performance in the first four games when, as usual, it took me time to get into my stride."

Kasparov, 23, and Karpov, 35, first met in a world title series in 1984 which was abruptly abandoned after 48 games. Karpov, the then champion, denied that he wanted the match abandoned because he was mentally and physically exhausted.

When the players clashed again last year, Kasparov took the title which Karpov had held since 1975 with a win in the 24th and final game of the series.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

A five-star hotel in Amman has a vacancy for a female executive secretary with university degree, 3 to 4 years experience and perfect command of English.

Those interested, please contact the personnel manager, telephone no. 663100

ARCHITECT NEEDED

Workshop drawings in sophisticated finishes for palace construction/ decorative works. Applicant should be capable of co-ordination services, drawings and take-off quantities, communicating with suppliers and acting for contractors with consultant etc.

Contact: CILCON: Tel: 667758
P.O. Box 5011 Amman.
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For information call at the site or telephone 676008

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Call: 817212

A SEPARATE FLAT FOR RENT

Composed of: 3 bedrooms, 3 L-shaped salons, 3 bath rooms, a telephone, garage and separate heating in the Shmeisani - Al-Rabia suburb.

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FURNISHED SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE FOR RENT

Located between 7th Circle and Mecca Street. Consists of two bedrooms, living, dining room and small garden. Independent central heating and telephone. Annual rent JD 3,300.

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TODAY...

CINEMA PLAZA

Shmeisani — at Housing Bank Centre
Tel: 677420

Presents the most attractive movie picture

THE RIVER

Starring: Sissy Spacek, Mel Gibson

HOW MANY BATTLES CAN ONE MAN LOSE AND STILL BE A MAN...

Shows at 3:30, 6:15, 8:30 and 10:30

<p>Cinema</p> <p>RAGHADA</p> <p>MY LUCKY STARS</p> <p>Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <p>CONCORD</p> <p>VOLUNTEERS</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <p>RAINBOW</p> <p>WARNING SIGN</p> <p>Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>
<p>Cinema</p> <p>OPERA</p> <p>POLICE ACADEMY "2"</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <p>PHILADELPHIA</p> <p>KARATE KID PART II</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <p>PLAZA</p> <p>THE RIVER</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4915/25	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3867/72	Canadian dollars
	2.0270/80	West German marks
	2.2875/85	Dutch guilders
	1.6338/48	Swiss francs
	41.95/42.00	Belgian francs
	6.6425/75	French francs
	1399/1400	Italian lire
	153.95/154.05	Japanese yen
	6.8590/8640	Swedish crowns
	7.2785/2835	Norwegian crowns
	7.6700/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	394.50/395.25	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices finished lower after a firm start, drifting on a lack of interest after modest early buying made way for scattered selling. By 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 7.6 at 1,665.2 after a high of 1,677.9.

Expectations that prices would move ahead again on the resumption of Wall Street trading after Monday's U.S. Labour Day holiday were mainly disappointed, although one or two issues moved above their lows on late U.S. interest.

Dealers said, however, that the undertone for the market remains firm especially ahead of the forthcoming TSB flotation and in the light of recent shortages of stock.

ICI closed 3p firmer at 1,094 having touched 1,102p in further reaction to Monday's news of its acquisition of a BASF subsidiary. Reports that ICI workers voted against industrial action over a pay claim further helped the shares.

Other chemicals were firm with BOC up 3p to 339 after 341 while Glaxo finished unchanged at 995 after 1,008. P and O ended 1p firmer at 516 ahead of results due on Wednesday.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 3, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You find much action possible in winding up the various separate items and details of whatever requires personal attention. Start a new course of action.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Your creativity is not high, but later you can present work just fine. Make good arrangements with your partners.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Some situation at home could prevent you from getting an early start in business. Later all is well.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you had planned some activity at home, don't permit a note from an associate to spoil it for you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Try not to worry over financial matters. Later you can figure out how to handle them very well.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Some secret worry should not deter you from going amicably about your ambitions and getting good results.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) There may be a delay in getting an early start but then you can contact those who have needed information.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A friend may not do what you like, but later you find that close ties will extend themselves in your behalf.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Affairs start rather slowly in business but soon you get favorable results. Get into details carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may feel frustrated early and want to go off on a tangent but this could be a bad move.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Try not to argue over the payment of a bill. You can get into a new interest that pays.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't permit a temperamental person to disturb you. Make sure you keep any promises you've made.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You may find it hard to get your regular work done properly. Later you have greater vision.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very capable at organizational matters which require much attention to details such as building, blueprints, government work, etc. Send to the right schools. Don't worry if your progeny is a slow starter. This child never forgets a lesson learned.

THE Daily Crossword by William Canine

ACROSS

- 1 Where in —
- 6 Service
- 10 Shade of blue
- 14 Shen
- 15 By-pass
- 16 Shale
- 17 In the —
- 18 (stack)
- 20 Development
- 22 Mandy
- 23 Suggested
- 25 Return mail
- 26 One of the
- 28 One of the
- 29 Wafers
- 31 Big bird
- 34 Sonny's girl
- 35 Pt. writer
- 36 — Grande
- 38 Brazil
- 39 Award
- 40 Obliterate
- 41 Something followed
- 42 Don Blocker's
- 44 Give — try
- 45 — — — — —
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

- 1 Where in —
- 6 Service
- 10 Shade of blue
- 14 Shen
- 15 By-pass
- 16 Shale
- 17 In the —
- 18 (stack)
- 20 Development
- 22 Mandy
- 23 Suggested
- 25 Return mail
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Arab central bank chiefs meet to review financial cooperation

BAHRAIN (R) — Arab central bank governors met in Abu Dhabi Tuesday to review financial cooperation between Arab central banks and monetary agencies, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) news agency WAM reported.

UAE minister of state for finance, Sheikh Ahmad Humaid Al Tay'er, told the one-day meeting that greater cooperation was needed to face threats to the international monetary system.

"The current world economic situation requires greater cooperation to protect the Arab World from dangers threatening the international monetary system," WAM quoted him as saying.

Central Bank governors of the

six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), grouping Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the UAE, were to review Gulf currency systems in separate talks later Tuesday.

UAE Central Bank Governor Abdul Malik Al Hamar said in a newspaper interview last week that they would discuss whether Gulf currencies were best pegged to one international currency or whether a basket of currencies would be more advantageous.

Commercial bankers said he seemed to underline recent feelings on Middle East foreign exchange markets that some Gulf states might be considering severing links with the dollar and instead opt for a parity against a

basket of currencies such as the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights (SDR).

Many Gulf currencies, including the Saudi riyal, are in theory pegged to the SDR, but in practice have been linked directly to the dollar since 1981.

A basket of currencies would insulate Gulf economies better from sudden currency swings, the bankers said. The Kuwaiti dinar is already linked to a basket.

Sheikh Al Hamar told the UAE newspaper Al Itihad the Gulf central bank governors would also discuss a Kuwaiti memorandum on the relationship of international banks with GCC states, and coordination of GCC policies on bank supervision.

Egyptian premier begins European tour today to win economic support

CAIRO (R) — Prime Minister Ali Lutfi leaves for Paris and London Wednesday to rally support for debt-ridden Egypt in its talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

An IMF team is currently in Cairo to consider Egypt's request for balance of payments support and review recent and proposed economic reforms.

Diplomats said Dr. Lutfi was expected to ask France and Britain to use their influence with the IMF, which is demanding a strict reforms package as a precondition for providing fresh credits and rescheduling debt repayments.

In an interview with Al Akbar newspaper published Monday, Dr. Lutfi said Egypt was committed to meeting payments

of 3.3 billion Egyptian pounds (\$4.7 billion) in debt and debt servicing this year.

Egypt is finding it difficult to service the estimated \$36 billion debt because of declining foreign currency earnings as a result of lower oil revenues and shrinking remittances from expatriate workers in the Gulf.

The diplomats said Dr. Lutfi would brief French and British leaders on recently-introduced economic measures, including a ban on some imports and a simplified exchange rate system, and a broader package of proposed reforms presented to European Community members this week.

Details have not been released. But the IMF is known to be pressing for radical reforms.

Energy woes take toll on U.S. banks

HOUSTON (AP) — Instead of lollipops and toasters, First City Bancorp. of Texas is offering some unusual gifts to entice wealthy depositors — Arabian colts, Porsche automobiles and single-engine Cessna airplanes.

Bankers don't normally offer such toys of the rich. But these are not normal times for oil patch bankers. They have seen losses mount as the oil and real estate depression ripples through the local economies and rocks the foundations of financial institutions.

Already a number of small banks have failed, including five in Louisiana that were closed on a single Friday. Last month, First National Bank and Trust of Oklahoma City, one of that state's oldest and largest financial institutions, was closed — the second largest U.S. bank failure ever.

As the economic chills spread through the southwest, observers expect more losses this year.

The woes haven't been confined to Texas and Oklahoma. A second quarter loss of \$640 million by San Francisco-based BankAmerica, the nation's second largest bank holding company, was blamed in part on the oil depression.

The U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. predicts a record

number of bank failures this year nationwide, largely because of the problems in the southwest.

Most will be small banks, but some major energy belt financial institutions are restructuring.

When oil was selling for \$30 a barrel, most banks made loans only to customers who could make payments even if oil dropped to \$20 or \$25. The price was not expected to go below that. But now, with the price around \$12, energy institutions have been forced to boost their loan-loss reserves, recognizing that many customers won't be able to make payments.

That has resulted in the river of red ink.

"Historically Texas bankers were an optimistic group. I don't think you can say they're an optimistic group anymore," said Ms. Sandra J. Flannigan, an analyst with Paine Webber Inc. in Houston.

The banks' problems not only stem from loans made to energy businesses, but also to real estate, projects, retail operations and scores of other enterprises.

"It's a sad fact of economic life in Oklahoma and Texas that when the oil business is not making any money, no one else is making any money," said Mr. Coy Hobbs,

spokesman for Bancoklahoma.

"There's not a lender in Texas that hasn't been affected by low energy prices," said Mr. Frank Anderson, a banking analyst at Weber Hall Sale and Associates in Dallas.

First City, one of Texas' largest bank holding companies, lost \$232.4 million in the first quarter this year because it set aside \$275 million to cover potential loan losses. The \$232.4 million shortfall was nearly double the amount First City earned in 1984 and 1985.

And while First City officials say the cash — about \$280 million — raised by last fall's elaborate gift offering wasn't vital, it did help.

"It was a very nice addition to the deposit base," said First City spokesman, Mr. John Jamick, adding, "it was clearly not a desperation move."

To receive a horse, Porsche or plane, a depositor had to put \$1 million in First City.

Of the 10 largest banks in Texas and Oklahoma, six posted losses in the first quarter and four saw their earnings drop between 30 per cent and 86 per cent. Results for the second quarter, which ended June 30, have been just as bleak.

OPEC countries begin reducing oil production

NICOSIA, Cyprus (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporting country, has reached agreement with its customers on a cutback in its crude output to comply with OPEC's drive to slash production and boost prices, an authoritative oil publication reported Monday.

The weekly Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) published in Nicosia, said the kingdom settled its problem of excess nominations for September "amicably" without having to resort to "force majeure as a means of enforcing a pro-rata cutback in liftings."

But the newsletter conceded that in August, Saudi Arabia's daily oil production was estimated at 5.5 million barrels a day.

Saudi Arabia and other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) had abandoned self-imposed quotas for the group's 13 members, causing an oil glut and forcing prices to plunge to about \$10 a barrel, less than a third of levels late last year.

MEES said Saudi Arabia is expected to pump below its new quota of 4.35 million barrels a day in September and October, the period when the cutback will be enforced.

Twelve OPEC members, with the exception of Iraq, agreed to cut output in those months to the October, 1984, level of 16.1 million barrels a day, more than three million barrels a day below their combined July production.

MEES said that Iran's oil exports have been slashed by more than two-thirds to an average of 500,000 barrels a day because of Iraqi air strikes on vital oil installations.

It said Iran has been unable to recuperate after a surprise Iraqi air raid on Aug. 12 crippled the Sirri Island trans-shipment terminal in the southern reaches of the Gulf.

The report contradicted claims by Iranian officials that the attacks on Sirri had not affected Iran's oil output. Iranian leaders said Iran is producing 2.2 million barrels a day, with daily exports of 1.6 million barrels.

After the attack on Sirri, Iran abandoned loading there and switched to another makeshift facility on Larak Island near the Iranian coast.

Larak, near Iran's main naval base of Bandar Abbas, had been closed before the attack because of bad weather.

MEES said some loadings took place at Larak last week. But major delays have occurred due to poor weather conditions, the bottleneck in deliveries from Kharg Island and the near-emptiness of five storage tankers transferred from Sirri.

The newsletter reported that Iraqi air raids on Iran's main export terminal at Kharg at the northern tip of the Gulf in August left three of the 14 berths operational.

Only one of these jetties is operating in full capacity, it said.

Berths seven and nine at the T-jetty facing the Iranian coastline, are "partially functional" because of damage they sustained in the Iraqi strikes, the publication reported.

Another difficulty, MEES reported, was the reluctance of seamen to serve on chartered shuttle tankers to ferry crude from Kharg because of Iraq's escalating attacks.

Iran and Iraq, locked in a six-year-old Gulf war, have been trying to choke each other's economies by striking at industrial and oil targets.

Both countries depend heavily on oil revenues to make up for an average of \$6 to \$7 billion the war costs each of them a year.

In Quito, the government on Monday put into effect an announced cutback in oil production.

Officials refused to say how much production was cut, but press reports said it was between 45,000 and 100,000 barrels per day.

"We are following the OPEC policy strictly, since we are interested in seeing oil prices revive," said Mr. Javier Espinosa, minister of energy and mines.

In July, he had announced an initial production cut of 12,000 barrels per day to boost oil prices. After taking office in 1984, President Leon Febres Cordero steadily increased oil production until it reached a peak of 300,000 barrels per day this year.

Officials have said Ecuador needs the increased income from oil exports to offset falling prices on the world market. Oil exports have contributed almost 70 per cent of export income, but this year earnings are expected to fall by \$700 million.

The Expresso newspaper said

Monday that production would be reduced by 50,000 barrels per day for a two-month period.

A study published in Caracas, Venezuela, by the El Nacional newspaper said Ecuador would face the most drastic cut of all the Latin American oil producers. The newspaper said Ecuador would have to cut production by 20 per cent to 230,000 barrels daily.

In Caracas, Venezuela Monday cut oil production to 1.555 million barrels a day to Oct. 31 in line with OPEC's latest accord.

The decision brings Venezuelan production down by 150,000 barrels from its July levels, which reached about 1.7 million barrels per day.

Minister of energy and mines, Mr. Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, said the decision to temporarily cut OPEC's production ceiling back to 1984 levels has caused world crude prices to recover to around \$15 a barrel, after having plunged to \$8 to \$10 a barrel during July.

According to Mr. Hernandez, oil prices will continue to rise if members of OPEC respect their quotas.

In Kuwait, the government said it had cut its oil output by 43.7 per cent to 900,000 barrels per day (b/d) as agreed by OPEC last month, the Kuwait News Agency KUNA reported.

It quoted an official of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) as saying: "We have begun from today a cut in output to 900,000 b/d from 1.6 million b/d in the previous month."

Sheikh Mansour Othman Al Freh, the KPC executive in charge of supply, said KPC had stopped all spot sales for September and October and had reduced production levels at its refineries so total output would be within its official quota.

The corporation had reduced its exports but he reaffirmed Kuwait would give preferential treatment to its long-term customers.

Sheikh Freh said Kuwait would remain committed to the OPEC agreement so long as other countries also abided by it.

Buying fever grips gold

ZURICH (R) — Gold and platinum prices rose abruptly Tuesday as buying fever gripped precious metals markets and dealers said gold might break through the key \$400 an ounce barrier.

"Everybody is buying, professionals, retail investors, industrial customers," said a dealer at a major Swiss bank. Turnover was enormous, he added.

Gold was selling down at \$328 an ounce last year. It opened here Tuesday at \$397 an ounce, around \$5 above the previous close. Platinum gained some \$10 to begin at \$646 an ounce, a new six-year high.

Platinum in 1985 was changing hands for as little as \$340 an ounce. The gains are the latest in a rally begun several weeks ago prompted by concern that South Africa, a major producer of both metals, could decide to restrict supplies as a retaliatory measure against possible Western sanctions.

Despite Pretoria's denials that such a move would be considered, speculators are returning to precious metals after a period of some years when the markets in these were flat.

Tuesday's rise in metals was underpinned by bearish currency markets. Dealers said the dollar was still heading down towards two marks, on speculation that the U.S. interest rates may fall further, although it opened in Frankfurt Tuesday a little firmer at 2.0285 marks.

Peanuts



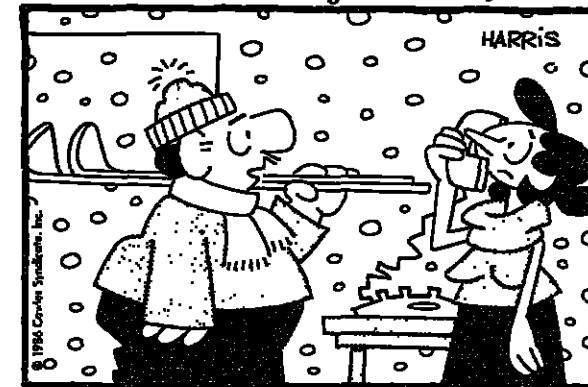
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

STYTA

GIREM

ENKASH

IROING

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: WITH

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHIME MOOSE DEBATE SURTAX

Answer: What a politician's life often is — A BED OF "RUSES"

Rescuers save at least 561 from sunken Soviet liner

MOSCOW (R) — At least 561 people were rescued from the Soviet passenger liner Admiral Nakhimov after it sank in the Black Sea on Sunday with 1,234 passengers and crew on board, the government newspaper Izvestia said Tuesday.

In the first on-the-spot report from the port of Novorossiysk, Izvestia listed four vessels that had saved 247, 146, 88 and 80 people respectively.

It gave no exact figures for the number of dead but said: "It was not possible to save everyone."

A merchant Marine Ministry official, Igor Averin, said earlier that the vast majority of passengers had been saved.

Mr. Averin, the ministry's external affairs director, said final casualty figures were not yet available and that the ministry would not be issuing a preliminary toll.

Izvestia said the 17,503-ton liner had been carrying tourists from various Soviet regions including Moldavia, the Ukraine, the three Baltic Republics and Central Asia.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, Gennady Gerasimov, told a news briefing that there were no foreigners on board.

Izvestia said the liner was in collision with the cargo ship Pyotr Vasev in the Black Sea after the cargo ship repeatedly failed to change course despite warning calls from the liner that it was coming too close.

"This tragedy once again sets on

thinking about the monstrous price of human negligence," Izvestia said.

Izvestia quoted the helmsman of the liner, whose last name was given as Snimov, as saying: "We left Novorossiysk normally, everything went well. Then we saw the cargo ship far away. The duty officer began to call it on the radio."

"We took a bearing. From the bearing."

"Don't worry..."

"After several minutes we repeated our call, because the cargo ship was following its former course. A. Chudovsky, the second officer on watch, began to get nervous, as if he felt something."

"I saw how the cargo ship cut into our boat."

Mr. Averin said rescue operations were in full swing off Novorossiysk and helicopters,

military personnel and divers were taking part.

The Admiral Nakhimov was only a few miles offshore when it collided with the 18,604-ton bulk carrier Pyotr Vasev. The liner was on a domestic cruise between Odessa and Bannu, near the Turkish border.

The first word of the accident came nearly 24 hours after it happened, when a brief government statement reported the sinking and said there had been loss of life without giving details. The official media have given no further information.

Mr. Averin, explaining why preliminary figures would not be released, said certain Western news media had issued exaggerated reports on the number of casualties and the government hoped to avoid the spread of false information.

Fifteen of the victims on the ground were in one home.

Previously confirmed deaths included 64 aboard the Aeromexico DC-9 and three on Piper Archer.

The air traffic controller will take a drug test Tuesday "not because there was any indication (drugs) are involved, but as a matter of routine," John Lauber, a National Transportation Safety Board investigator, said Monday.

"It is a fact that (the third craft) took the attention of the controller during the time he was dealing with Aeromexico," Mr. Lauber said.

When the controller returned to

Small plane pilot in California air collision 'suffered a heart attack'

CERRITOS, California (AP) — The air traffic controller guiding a jetliner when it collided with a private plane was apparently distracted by a third aircraft nearby, officials said, as the reported death toll rose to 85.

In addition, the pilot of the small plane in the crash suffered a heart attack moments before the disaster, the coroner's office said.

The dead included 18 residents of the neighbourhood devastated by flaming wreckage of Sunday's crash, Los Angeles county fire spokesman Capt. Garry Oversby told the Los Angeles Times.

Mr. Lauber said he had no indication if the heart attack could have led to the collision.

"That, of course, is a significant finding that we will be pursuing extensively," he said. "There isn't much at this point we can say about it, other than to note it with great interest and we will pursue."

Officials were not able to determine the severity of the heart attack, but said it did not kill the pilot. He was decapitated in the collision, Gold said.

The coroner's office did not identify the pilot, but Robert Kirkpatrick said the coroner's office notified his former wife, Suzanne Kirkpatrick, that her father, mother and sister were in the small plane.

Kirkpatrick identified the pilot as William Kramer, his wife as Kathleen Kramer, and the daughter as Caroline Kramer. Ms. Kirkpatrick declined comment. Kramer had recently moved to Los Angeles, Kirkpatrick said.

deal with the jetliner, he got no response.

The crash in the Los Angeles suburb of Cerritos was the worst U.S. air tragedy since 1977 people were killed on Aug. 2, 1985, when a Delta Airlines L-1011 Tristar crashed while landing at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

The Piper's pilot suffered a heart attack moments before the collision, Bill Gold, a spokesman for the Los Angeles County Coroner's office, said Monday.

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Preliminary transcripts from the Air Traffic Control Centre didn't indicate the Piper's flight path because the pilot apparently never made contact with controllers there, Mr. Lauber said.

Just before the crash, the controller handling the Aeromexico jetliner's approach became aware of a third plane in the area, although it didn't appear to be in danger of crossing the DC-9's path, Mr. Lauber said.

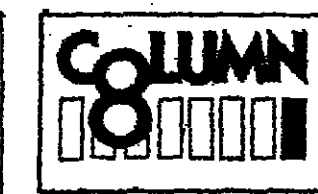
"Immediately following that exchange, the controller tries to make contact with Aeromexico to give him a left turn," a routine landing instruction, Mr. Lauber said.

During the next 2 1/2 minutes, the controller tried to contact the jetliner eight times without success, he said.

"At that point, the controller asked an incoming flight to look for any evidence of a problem and that's when they spot smoke both in the sky and on the ground," Mr. Lauber said.

Investigators have identified 32 witnesses to the crash, 11 of whom have been questioned. Most indicated the planes were flying generally toward each other when they appeared to make simultaneous left turns, Mr. Lauber said.

The initial impact apparently came at the DC-9's left wing, and the Piper then tore into the jet's horizontal stabiliser, causing it to flip upside down. Witnesses have said the jetliner plunged to earth in that position.



Man from Fifth Avenue back in U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — Joseph Mauri, featured in a Soviet documentary on homelessness in the United States, has returned from Moscow and vowed to continue his fight for the needy. Mauri told reporters when he arrived at the airport Sunday that he had collected several thousand signatures from Soviet citizens urging the New York state government to increase aid to the homeless. He said that during his trip in the USSR he did not see many homeless people. Mauri was there to publicise the plight of the American homeless. He was given a free, month-long trip to the Soviet Union by the National Soviet Trade Union group because of his starring role in the documentary The Man From Fifth Avenue, a Soviet film on the inequalities of city life in New York. The film depicted him as a poor New Yorker. Mauri works part-time in the New York Times' mailroom and has made about \$3,000 so far this year, according to the Times. He has acknowledged that he could earn about \$35,000 a year should he accept a full-time mailer's job if it was available.

Violence erupts after arrest of naked girls

HUNTINGTON BEACH, California (AP) — At least 100 teenagers have set fire to five police vehicles and a lifeguard's jeep in a beach riot sparked by the arrest of six naked girls. Police said the riot under control three hours after it began near the annual Op Pro Surfing Championships, said police Sgt. Ron Jenkins. It was not clear how many people were arrested, Jenkins said. Two officers suffered minor injuries, he said. The surfing tournament at Huntington Beach Pier 35 miles (55 kilometres) south east of Los Angeles drew an estimated 100,000 people. The riot began behind bleachers set up for the event when police arrested the six girls, said tournament spokesman Carol Kaishua. Revelers hurled rocks and bottles at the officers, then a swelling crowd chased them into lifeguard headquarters. Jenkins said. At least 100 teens were involved, police said. The mob torched three police cars, a police van, a county lifeguard jeep and a police all-terrain vehicle, Jenkins said. One officer required stitches for a face wound, and an Orange County sheriff's deputy was treated for a minor cut and released, he said.

Woman near death after delivering 20th child

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — A 35-year-old woman who has given birth to 19 children that were still born or died shortly after birth was reported near death after she delivered her 20th child prematurely, hospital officials said Tuesday. The mother was reported in serious condition, but may survive, while the child was doing well, a doctor said. "Basanti is very serious right now. Let's hope she survives. She is on a liquid diet," Dr. Kochhar said. Mrs. Singh was married at 11 and first became pregnant when she was 15 years old. Every year she tried to "give birth to a normal, healthy child but each time she encountered problems during delivery," the Indian Express newspaper reported. "I often advised Basanti against these repeated pregnancies but she would not listen," Sonu Devi, her mother-in-law was quoted as saying. Mrs. Singh is anaemic and has heart trouble. Most of her earlier babies were born at home with little or no medical care, Dr. Kochhar said.

3,000-year-old mummies found in China

PEKING (R) — Archaeologists in north west China have found 30 well-kept mummies preserved for at least 3,000 years, the New China News Agency said Tuesday. It said the mummies were found in an ancient graveyard one to two metres deep near the city of Hami in Xinjiang region. They were covered in well-preserved woollen clothes. The bodies have big noses and blonde hair kept in a bun — characteristics similar to those of the Muslim people who now account for about half the region's population, it added. It said the dry, hot weather of the region, much of it desert, had prevented the mummies and their clothing from decomposing over the centuries.

Manila to grant autonomy to Muslims

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (R) — An emissary of President Corazon Aquino said Tuesday the government had decided in favour of granting autonomy to predominantly Muslim areas in the southern Philippines.

Agapito Aquino, brother-in-law of the president, told reporters: "The government is opting for autonomy, not secession."

He arrived in Zamboanga from Manila and flew to south western Jolo Island to talk to Muslim rebel leader Nur Misuari, who has returned from exile in the Middle East to hold talks with the president on ending the 14-year-old insurgency.

Misuari, who heads the rebel MNLF, will attend a three-day congress of Muslim leaders starting Tuesday in Sulu province to discuss issues to be taken up in the talks.

Mr. Aquino said his sister-in-law would definitely visit Mindanao Island for talks with Misuari but declined to say when or where they would meet.

He has said during the past few days that talks would be held on Jolo. But the presidential palace has clamped a news blackout on the subject for security reasons and hinted that the location had been changed.

The ousted government of Ferdinand Marcos signed an agreement in 1976 in Tripoli with Filipino Muslim leaders. This granted autonomy to mainly Muslim areas but was never implemented.

The pact was signed after tens of thousands of people were killed on Mindanao in the south during a bloody insurgency in the early 1970s.

The president has given top priority to ending the Muslim as well as the Communist rebellion in the country and sent Agapito Aquino to Saudi Arabia last month to talk to Misuari.

Agapito Aquino said the government opposed the dismemberment of the country and the talks would be held after the Muslim congress decided what position to take.

In Santa Barbara, California,

President Ronald Reagan's administration said Monday it did not want to pass judgment on efforts of Mrs. Aquino to battle the Communist insurgency in her country.

"We have a great deal of interest in that but I don't think we're in a position to pass judgment on it," said White House spokesman Larry Speakes.

The New York Times, in Monday's editions, quoted Reagan administration officials as saying they were increasingly concerned by what they consider Mrs. Aquino's lack of effectiveness in handling insurgencies, and added that they wanted her to take tougher measures.

"I think she is as strongly anti-Communist as we are and she recognises the importance of the issue and the insurgency there," Mr. Speakes said.

Mrs. Aquino will visit Washington to meet Mr. Reagan on Sept. 17. Mr. Speakes said the talks would focus on economic and security issues.

Soviets deny framing American reporter

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet spokesman denied Tuesday that Nicholas Daniloff, an American reporter accused of spying, had been framed and said his case would go to the court once the investigation of the affair was over.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told a news briefing that Daniloff had been caught red-handed in possession of secret documents and said his detention should not affect U.S.-Soviet relations.

Daniloff, 52, Moscow correspondent of the weekly U.S. News and World Report, was seized by KGB security police agents last Saturday and has been held since in a military prison in the east of the capital. He has not been formally charged.

Daniloff's wife Ruth, who has visited him twice in prison, has said she is sure he was detained in retaliation for the arrest in New York last month of Gennady Zakharov, a Soviet worker at the United Nations who has been charged with spying.

"Daniloff was caught, unfortunately for the journalistic community, red-handed with a sealed envelope which contained secret documents," Mr. Gerasimov said. "The thing that I can stress is that he has no complaints about how he is treated."

U.S. officials in Washington and the magazine's chairman, Mortimer Zuckerman, have both rejected the accusation that Daniloff was spying.

Zuckerman, who has arrived in Moscow to seek Daniloff's release, met a leading Soviet specialist on U.S. affairs, Georgy Arbatov, Tuesday to discuss the case.

Daniloff was detained after meeting a Soviet friend in Moscow's Lenin Hills who gave him a package and, according to the reporter, said it contained newspaper clippings. Opened later in Daniloff's presence, it turned out to contain maps marked "secret" and photographs of Soviet military facilities.

"If he goes to the Lenin Hills to meet somebody, and that somebody gives him an envelope... he made that decision and you must take the consequences, so how can you say he was set up?" Mr. Gerasimov said.

The spokesman said an investigation into Daniloff's case was still in progress. "When it is over, it will be passed to the courts. This is the outlook for the future so far. At that time... he can have access to a lawyer," he said.

Another senator, Leonardo Posada, was killed Saturday in the central Colombian town of Barrancabermeja. He was also shot by a gunman on a motorcycle, police said. Both gunmen escaped.

Gilberto Viera, secretary general of the Colombian Communist Party, met Monday with Colombia's Minister of the Interior Fernando Cepeda who is in charge of internal security for the country. The Communist leader demanded that security be upgraded for Patriotic Union office holders.

Two days before his death, Mr. Luna and his security officers discovered 440 pounds of cocaine stashed inside two Boeing 747 tires of a cargo plane bound for Miami.

Mr. Luna also was shot by a gunman on a speeding motorcycle, according to a police communique.

Senator, security chief murdered in Colombia

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A federal senator was killed in Colombia, becoming the 13th political office holder of a leftist political party to be assassinated in the last five months, police has said.

Also murdered Monday was Carlos Luna, chief of security for Avianca, Colombia's biggest privately owned airline. Mr. Luna was killed about 48 hours after his security team discovered \$5 million worth of cocaine aboard an Avianca cargo jetliner bound for the United States.

No group has claimed responsibility for either slaying, the national police said in a communique.

Colombian police are frequently stymied by murders in this country where there are at least three groups financing death squads, five leftist groups, some who the government accuse of drug trafficking, several rings of drug traffickers setting grudges and common criminals committing random crimes.

Pedro Jimenez, the senator killed Monday, was a member of the Patriotic Union Party, a party started by a leftist guerrilla group, the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces, known as the FRAC.

The FARC created the party with the government's permission about 18 months ago after it signed a cease-fire with government security forces and agreed to eventually disband.

The senator was killed in a hail of bullets fired by a gunman on a motorcycle in the capital of Bogota. Mr. Jimenez was in his car on his way to a school to pick up his daughter, police said.

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Party expels another 27 members after Chernobyl

MOSCOW (AP) — The Communist Party in the region of the Chernobyl nuclear plant has expelled 27 members for misconduct connected with the April 26 disaster at the plant, the Communist Party daily Pravda said Tuesday.

Two of the expelled members were drivers who were kicked out of the party because of "cowardice and panicking," the newspaper said.

There have been periodic reports of party members being expelled, disciplined or fired from their jobs following the explosion that ruined Chernobyl's No.4 reactor and released a cloud of radiation eventually detected around the world.

Pravda named only three of those kicked out of the Kiev Regional Party, including the two drivers and a worker at a local institute.

More than four months after the accident, authorities in the Ukraine are still failing to give people adequate information about health risks and other aspects of the disaster, Pravda said.

Such complaints have been voiced in the past by the Soviet

press, although the state-run newspapers continue to provide information about the accident in a relatively slow stream.

Two Pravda reporters said they had been allowed a glimpse of the ruined No.4 reactor at Chernobyl, but were permitted only to look for a couple of seconds because of what they said were continuing high levels of radiation.

The reporters added, however, that there are no new emissions of radioactive particles from the reactor, whose top layer they said has now been covered with a plastic coating entrapping radioactive dust and sealing the reactor top.

Pravda said that furniture was being brought from the town of Pripyat to some of those evacuated from the settlement, located about three kilometres from the reactor.

The report suggested that decontamination is proceeding, but Soviet officials have indicated Pripyat might never be inhabited again.

The official death toll from the nuclear disaster stands at 31, including two people killed on the scene of the accident and 29 who died later in hospitals of radiation exposure.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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FIND THE DISTRIBUTION

East-West vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ 8 6
♥ 9 7
♦ A 9 8
♣ K Q 9 5 2
WEST
♠ J 10 7 2
♥ K Q 10 5 4 3 2
♦ A J 8
♣ 10 8

spite a minimum point count, beware of bad breaks.
West led the king of hearts and continued with a heart to the ace. Declarer ruffed and laid down the king of trumps. West's heart discard was a distinct shock.

A change in plan was called for—declarer could no longer afford to draw two rounds of trumps and then play on the club suit. The fact that all declarer's trumps were high suggested a cross-ruff. That, in turn, meant declarer would have to cash his winners first. The cross-ruff would succeed if East had started with at least two spades and three clubs.

Declarer could only hope for the best. When the ace-king of spades and the three top clubs went through, the rest was simple. Declarer ruffed two clubs in hand and three spades on the table as East followed helplessly with his low trumps. In all, declarer collected his five black-suit winners and seven trump tricks.

Note that it is essential for declarer to take his tricks before embarking on the cross-ruff. If he ruffs a card in either black suit before cashing all his winners, East will be able to discard in the other black suit and ruff one of South's high cards for the setting trick.

The first reaction of the average player to a bad trump break is panic. Instead, he would be better advised to consider whether there is any distribution that would enable him to make his contract.

Despite the interference bidding by their vulnerable opponents, North-South reached a good six-diamond contract that would have been relatively easy with normal breaks. However, when there has been activity by the defenders de-

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 2 ♣ 3 ♣ 3 ♣
4 ♣ Pass 5 ♣ Pass
6 ♣ Pass Pass
Opening lead: King of ♣

Afghan guerrillas reportedly kill 40 Soviet troops

ISLAMABAD (R) — Anti-Communist guerrillas killed 40 Soviet troops but lost 12 of their men in recent fighting in the eastern Afghan province of Nangarhar, Western diplomats said Tuesday.

The guerrillas also destroyed three Soviet tanks and 30 trucks, the diplomats said.

An Afghan government commander identified as Abdul Latif also surrendered with 80 troops to the guerrillas last month, they said.

The Soviet Union has an estimated 115,000 troops in Afghanistan to help the government fight the Western-backed guerrillas.

The diplomats said they had also received reports of heavy fighting around the southern town of Kandahar and the guerrillas regaining control of the old city of the western town of Herat for the

third time this summer.

Last Sunday, Afghanistan's official Bakhtar News Agency reported government troops killing unspecified number of rebels and destroying their hideouts in Herat province, which borders Iran.

Meanwhile a senior Afghan official said Afghanistan plans to start contacting Muslim rebels directly to try to win them over to the Communist government they have been fighting for the past seven years.

Kabul's National Fatherland Front (NFF) believes several of the main rebel groups based in Pakistan are riddled with "deceived patriots and fence-sitters" who would respond to an attractive offer to return.

NFF President Abdul Rahim Hatf told Reuters Monday.

The NFF, the official umbrella

organisation for non-party groups throughout Afghanistan, will soon start approaching these group members with offers of amnesty, jobs and other help if they lay down their arms, he said.

The new offensive was decided after Communist Party leader Najibullah last June demanded "action, action, action" from the NFF, which he criticised as rigid and unimaginative in its work.

"No such enemy exists that we will not be able to reach an accord with him," Najibullah told the NFF.

"That criticism was the authorisation for us to go out and contact members of the main counter-revolutionary group," said Mr. Hatf in explaining why the NFF had not aimed for the Western-backed rebels in the past.

Although it is supposed to win

non-Communists to the party's cause, the NFF has in the past five years persuaded only 30,000 people to lay down their arms and return from refugee camps in Pakistan, he said.

Afghan exiles challenge the NFF claim and say many rebels deliberately surrender to the government to get food and clothing for winter and return to the guerrilla side once warmer weather comes.

The NFF will arrange amnesty for the rebels, Mr. Hatf said, and government ministries would provide jobs or help them start up farms and small businesses.

Asked whether he thought the rebels would respond to the NFF campaign, Mr. Hatf said:

"They are not so dangerous. We have blood relations, the same culture, language and religion. There are ways to attract them."

Transplant patient Baby James dies

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The child known as Baby James, who underwent one of a series of pioneering infant-to-infant heart transplants, died after his body rejected his implanted heart, a hospital spokeswoman has said.

The 18-month-old boy died last Sunday after a futile search for another donor organ to replace the heart he received on April 26, said Anita Rockwell, spokesman for Loma Linda University Medical Centre, 100 kilometres east of Los Angeles.

Rockwell identified the child, whose real name was kept secret until his death, as Nicholas Lawrence Miller, who was

adopted by Thomas and Jayne Miller, of Redwood City, immediately after his birth on Feb. 15, 1985.

The boy died during an acute rejection episode, Rockwell said. After being admitted to a hospital Saturday, the baby received treatment to stop his body's immune system from rejecting the organ as foreign tissue, but "the rejection process could not be controlled or reversed despite vigorous efforts by the transplant team," Rockwell added.

The Miller boy was the third of six infants to receive pioneering baby-to-baby heart transplants by

Dr. Leonard Bailey.

The Miller child was the second of the six to die. A Texas infant, Nicky Carrizales, died on July 2 after undergoing two heart transplants in two days.

The four other patients — known as babies Moses, Eve, Rachel and Jesse Dean Sepulveda — are all doing well, Rockwell said.

Before baby Moses underwent his transplant last Nov. 20, only two infant-to-infant heart transplants ever had been performed. Those patients both died after the surgeries, which occurred in 1967 in New York and 1984 in London.

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